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# BARNARD



Spring 2006

## Financing The Future

A Report on Financial Aid

A New President for CARE

Transfer Students at Barnard



**M**y late and much missed husband, Donn, and I were doing a periodic review of our wills—we were retired, our children were settled, our grandchildren were growing up—when we decided to make immediate gifts to our colleges rather than bequests. So we established a gift annuity for Barnard and now I am enjoying its steady income for my lifetime. Ultimately the annuity will be added to a scholarship I have already endowed at the College. This is one way I can pay Barnard back—for 50 years of my closest friendships; for the pleasure I get from art and history, which I trace back to Professors Held and Burrell; and for its financial aid to me that made all the rest possible.

—Toni Crowley Coffee '56

*Toni Coffee, the former editor (1979-1989) and associate editor (1990-2002) of Barnard magazine, is a class officer and serves on several alumnae committees.*

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**The Athena Society**  
*Barnard College*

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*Donors of Planned Gifts are invited to join The Athena Society*

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# BARNARD

Spring 2006

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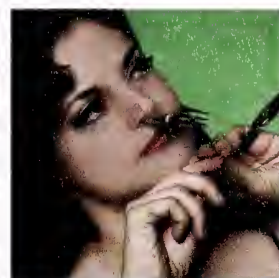
With education costs rising, we look at the work of Barnard's Financial Aid office, and examine what it takes to finance an education today.



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In struggling to make ends meet, one alumna recognizes, and values, her accomplishments.

## LETTERS

### Curtain Call

Bravo for your Winter 2006 issue ("Wonderful Town," pp. 18-29). I am proud of my fellow classmate, Dasha Amsterdam Epstein, whose career on Broadway has soared since our Barnard days.

During my senior year, I had firsthand experience with Broadway at a one-of-a-kind Barnard seminar in drama taught by Norris Houghton, co-founder of the Phoenix Theatre. His book about the Moscow Art Theatre during the time of Stanislavsky came from his firsthand observation via a Fulbright. In this most unique class, guest lecturers included playwrights Arthur Miller and Tennessee Williams, critic Brooks Atkinson, director Elia Kazan, actress Mildred Dunnock, and Theatre Guild founders Theresa Helburn and Lawrence Langner, who showed us the process from page to stage. The late Joseph Wisby (CC '55) went on to win an Oscar, a Tony, and an Emmy.

If there are any former students who remember this fantastic seminar and can bring to mind additional guest lecturers, I would be extremely grateful.

*Joyce Seidman Shankman '55  
Silver Spring, Md.*

## Lectures and Essays

by Joann Ryan Morse

A limited number of copies of a privately printed collection of lectures and essays by the late Professor Joann Ryan Morse is available without cost through the office manager of the Barnard English department. For a copy, please call Lucy Coolidge at 212-854-2116 or 212-854-8971.

### Brain Drain

Our first welcome to school was a speech by Dean Gildersleeve—"Girls of Barnard, we are here to gain trained brains." I was aware there would be challenges along the way—a foreign language exam and a comprehensive one in my major. I admit I'm probably behind the times—what happened to majors? They seem to have been replaced by "studies"—women's studies, black studies, and I just read one college is adding gay studies. How do these relate to academic quality? I was surprised to find a comment in a December 2005 issue of *Newsweek* that was less than flattering, ["College Papers Grow Up," page 48].

I like to think I went to the best school and trust we will regain our former rating.

*Alma Jean Beers Rowe '48  
Spring, Texas*

## NOTES

The "President's Page" discussion in our Winter 2006 issue referred to a September lecture by civil rights activist Rita Schwerner Bender. This was the inaugural Renee Becker Swartz '55 Lecture, which was funded by Renee Becker Swartz '55 and presented by the New York City Civic Engagement Program.

## CORRECTIONS

In the "Holiday Cheer" story in the Winter 2006 issue (page 14), we misspelled the maiden name of Mrs. Hengameh Mimran—it is Mirashrafi, not Mirashiapi.

We inadvertently switched the names of the class correspondents for 1931 and 1934 in the Winter 2006 issue.

We regret the errors.

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# Difficult Dialogues

**C**an we talk?" The words themselves are not intimidating. But Barnard alumna Joan Rivers created a famous comedic catchphrase by turning this question into a dare—a vocal contract demanding total conversational candor. Joan's conversations take place onstage, of course, where the topics she addresses are playful ones, and any ensuing angst in the celebrities she interviews or audiences she entertains is part of the show.

Offstage, campus communities across the United States are increasingly asking themselves the same question. In academia, however, the issues at hand—of academic freedom, religious faith, political polarization, and ethnic division—aren't playful in the least. When students, faculty, and administrators avoid candid, constructive dialogue about religious fundamentalism, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, or other sensitive topics, they are implicitly saying, "No, we can't talk. Our underlying differences are too great."

Although our country's population has never been as diverse as it is today, many undergraduates still come from fairly homogeneous hometown communities. It is quite possible for an 18-year-old to have had very little direct contact with different cultures, religions, and political ideas. Once she arrives on a diverse campus, that student may be at ease discussing controversial issues with classmates who come from similar backgrounds and share similar convictions. But in the interest of maintaining comfort, peace, and civility, she may avoid touching on sensitive issues with classmates of markedly dissimilar backgrounds and beliefs.

Unfortunately, such silence and distancing maintain only a veneer of comfort, peace, and civility. What are actually maintained are ignorance, misunderstanding, and distrust. The placid veneer will inevitably be shattered by periodic

campus flare-ups, such as those we've seen at various universities over the rights and responsibilities of controversial professors.

Recognizing the increase in religious, ethnic, and political tensions on American campuses, as well as the resultant threats to academic freedom and freedom of expression, the Ford Foundation asked some college and university presidents to work together to begin finding solutions. I was part of the

team that first met with a foundation representative in the fall of 2004, and in the months that followed, we developed an ambitious new initiative, which we named "Difficult Dialogues: Promoting Pluralism and Academic Freedom on Campus." "Difficult Dialogues" was publicly launched on March 31, 2005, when, along with Ford Foundation President Susan Berresford, Princeton University President Shirley Tilghman, Dartmouth College President

James Wright, and 12 other collaborators, I co-signed a letter to the leaders of America's institutions of higher education. Our letter outlined the corrosive

situation in various quarters of academia, set forth the initiative's goals, and solicited remedial proposals.

The response was huge: 675 colleges and universities submitted grant applications to the Ford Foundation. Last December, the foundation announced that Barnard was among 27 institutions chosen to receive \$100,000 each to implement the initiative.

I am thrilled to have this recognition and support for the Barnard venture now known as the *Religion, Freedom, and the Politics of Identity Project*. The project will be launched next fall, when a new faculty seminar will explore the complexities of academic, religious, and other freedoms. Soon afterward, we will add new components to the undergraduate curriculum.

*continued on page 64*



**WHEN COLLEGE STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND ADMINISTRATORS  
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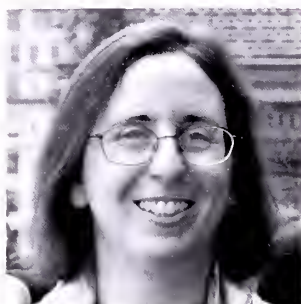
## contributors



Chicago-based writer **Allison Enright's** favorite question is "What's your story?" "The experiences people collect can just be incredible, and I love to listen to them," she says. In "And The Nominee Is..." (page 15), Enright tells the story of Hollywood producer and Academy Award-nominee, Pia Clemente '93. Enright, a staff reporter for *Marketing News*, also contributes to *Insight* and *Chicago Home & Garden*.



**Ilana Polyak**, a New York-based freelancer, called on her extensive experience writing about personal finance for the feature "Show Them the Money" (page 27). Polyak writes frequently for such publications as *The New York Times*, *Kiplinger's Personal Finance*, and *Black Enterprise*. When she's not dishing out financial advice, Polyak is running loops in Central Park in preparation for the 2006 New York City marathon.



Although mother, wife, freelance writer and editor **Merri Rosenberg '78** was not a transfer student like those she writes about in "Manhattan Transfer" (page 5), she's an active alumna who enjoys being on campus. In addition to an education column in the Westchester edition of *The New York Times*, Rosenberg regularly writes for *Education Update* and *Jewish Week* and contributes to *Lilith* and *Westchester Magazine*.



New York-based photographer **Lynn Saville** shot the double portrait of Diana and Roy Vagelos (page 12). "I wanted to show how the beautiful living room of the Vagelos center was a natural setting for this lively and intelligent couple." Saville's fine art photography is represented by New York's Yancey Richardson Gallery. The MTA has chosen seven of her night photographs to exhibit in the 42nd Street F station this year.

## editor's letter

**C**ome May 16 the status of roughly 590 young Barnard women will change from matriculated student to graduate. Diplomas in hand, they will bid Barnard and friends *farewell... until we meet again*. Of those 590, more than half were the recipients of financial aid over the past four years. It's fair to assume that without this aid, they wouldn't have made it here. Financial aid touches many of our lives, either because we were the beneficiaries of it, making something otherwise out of our reach accessible. Or, perhaps, we'll be banking on financial aid to make opportunities available to future generations.

Barnard is one school that devotes a lot of time, energy, and resources to ensuring that the young women who want to attend can. "We don't want money to be the only reason they don't come," says Financial Aid Director Alison Rabil. Starting on page 25, we look at how Rabil and her colleagues make this happen, and we update you on the state of financial aid today.

Financial aid helped Sarah Schmidt when she chose Barnard four years ago. Schmidt is one of 135 science majors graduating this year. She came to Barnard with music on her mind, but now she's determined to become an astronomy professor (see *Through The Gates*, page 7). Maybe she'll someday deliver the annual Distinguished Women in Science lecture, as Dr. Helene Gayle, the newly appointed head of the international nonprofit CARE, recently did (see our interview with Gayle on page 18). "Were it not for Barnard, I would not be the person I am today," Gayle said. It might take this year's graduates a bit more time to see just how Barnard changed their lives, but it's a sure bet each one will.

Congratulations to the Class of 2006. We look forward to seeing everyone at reunion.

Dimitra Kessenides '89  
Editor, *Barnard*



# THROUGH THE GATES

Campus News and Events

academics

## Manhattan Transfer

By Merri Rosenberg '78

**W**riter Zora Neale Hurston '28 was one. So, too, was Ellen Futter '71, president of the American Museum of Natural History and the former president of Barnard College. Even Lauren Graham '88 of TV's *Gilmore Girls* was one. What these alumnae share is the experience of having transferred to Barnard, a status held by nearly 10 percent of the student body.

Transfer students and their post-transfer college experience have emerged recently as a focus of the national higher education agenda. A 2004 Department of Education study found that nearly 60 percent of students who graduated from high school in 1992 attended more than one college, compared to 47 percent in 1967. The annual National Survey of Student Engagement, based at Indiana University in Bloomington, looks at transfer students as part of a yearly student-life analysis. That report has found that transfers tend to be less well integrated in campus life, and slightly less engaged outside of the classroom, says survey director and education professor George Kuh. And according to a February article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, average annual transfer enrollment at the 38 most selective private colleges (as ranked by *Barron's Profiles of American Colleges*) is 19 students.

Barnard trends higher, much higher. Unlike its peer institutions, the College welcomes about 100 students into the sophomore and junior classes each year. There is no particular pattern to Barnard's transfer enrollment: they come

from Harvard to Vassar, George Washington to the University of Chicago. Between five and ten percent of the College's transfer students come from community colleges, a number Barnard is looking to increase.

"We always graduate a larger class than we start with," says Dean Dorothy Denburg '70. "Transfer students come to Barnard with well-defined interests and a passion that comes from having made an informed choice the second time around."

The reasons cited for switching schools are many. Typical factors influencing students' decisions include finances (a need to save money by starting out at a community college or state school before enrolling in a private institution); the realization that the first college just isn't the right place, academically or socially; or a desire to pursue a course of study available only at another school. Transferring also presents a second chance for acceptance by a school that might initially have turned an applicant down. At Barnard, 25 percent of transfer students had applied once before. Admissions officers do counsel those applicants to try again, if and when they can present a strong first-year college record, says Mary Sue Yoon, senior associate director of Admissions and coordinator of Transfer Admissions.

"We have students who've taken time off, who've worked in the arts, as professional dancers, for example," says Yoon. "And there are those who said, 'at 17, it seemed overwhelming to me to come to New York and now I'm ready.'"

Greater diversity, more opportunities, and a variety of extracurricular activities were the factors that motivated Allison Ayelet Fischer '07 to move to the College. "Barnard is an incredibly warm campus, I'm always doing fun things, and there are great speakers and opportunities," the junior and native



Barnard's average transfer student enrollment is higher than many top private colleges.

Californian says. Fischer first enrolled at Yeshiva University's Stern College for Women. Sonja Rakowski '04, who had attended Vassar for a year before coming to the city, cites similar reasons. "I felt like I wasn't being exposed to enough cultural offerings outside of school, and I wanted to study environmental biology. Barnard was one of the few colleges that had this major."

These and other students say they've been impressed, and gratified, with the effort the College puts into assimilating transfers, and into lessening any of the anxiety or fear that naturally goes along with these decisions. It can be a challenging experience, says Dean Marjorie Silverman, who oversees the advising program for transfers in the Dean's office. "It's emotionally more difficult because of the bonding that usually goes on from the very beginning of freshman year," she says. And so many of the school's efforts are focused on addressing the isolation a transfer might feel.

"Starting out in the spring was a little lonely," says Gabrielle Gutierrez, who just received her degree this past February. Gutierrez, who'd come from Pennsylvania's Allegheny College, decided to work with the Transfer Alliance as a way to be more involved in campus and student life. "In the end, I felt really connected to Barnard."

Other efforts range from opening up housing options for transfers to organizing social events and special activities that offer transfers the opportunity to interact with campus administrators, faculty, and all students. President Judith Shapiro, for example, attends the annual transfer luncheon to meet the students and their parents. Academic and counseling support are key parts to this.

What does Admissions look for in a prospective transfer student? "A good strong college record," says admissions dean Jennifer Gill Fondiller '88. "Transfers may be academically a little weaker than those we admit as first-years; with transfers, we're able to delve more into the individual. We're looking at more autobiographical background, interests, and goals." Still, their academic performance is strong by the time they graduate. In the 2004-05 academic year, transfers graduated with nearly 15 percent honors—cum laude, magna cum laude, summa cum laude. The distinctions are based both on their grades at Barnard and their overall GPA.



**Read more about how transferring offers applicants a second chance.**

higher ed

## Looking for Gender Equity in the Lab

By Robin Wilson and Karen Birchard

**T**hree federal agencies are using a tool that transformed the gender composition of college athletics to investigate gender equity in academic science.

The National Science Foundation, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Department of Energy are reviewing college mathematics, science, and engineering departments to check their compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. The law which is best known for fostering the growth of women's sports on campuses also applies to academic programs but has rarely been used that way. It bans institutions that receive federal money from discriminating on the basis of gender.

A 2004 report by the General Accounting Office, Congress's investigative arm, recommended that federal agencies perform routine reviews to check that academic science programs are welcoming women and treating them fairly. As a result, the NSF is planning to review science departments at four colleges this year, but the agency will not make public which institutions it will focus on or what questions it will ask.

Indeed, the review process has been highly secretive so far. But *The Chronicle* learned that NASA is conducting reviews of the aerospace-engineering and physics departments at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. Anthony J. Walesby, an assistant provost at Michigan, says the agency has asked the departments for information on undergraduate recruitment and retention and on the gender makeup of their faculties.

Some see the reviews as an opportunity to increase the number of female faculty members in science and engineering. "We've worked hard for 30 years to keep women interested in science and get them out of universities with Ph.D.'s," says Debra Rolison, a research head in chemistry at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory. "Yet they don't seem to be reflected in the career pool in science."

Ms. Rolison, who organized a session about the compliance reviews at the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in February, calls the Title IX reviews a "not-yet-realized earthquake" in academic science.

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**Check out how Barnard supports women in science.**



## academics

## Post-Grad

With graduation on the horizon, one senior reflects on her academic achievements, and previews what life after Barnard will mean for her.

**S**arah Schmidt came to Barnard in the fall of 2002 with music on her mind. "I was interested in singing as a career," the Chicago native says. Overestimating her own knowledge of music theory, she signed up for a higher-level course but was forced to drop it. Instead, as her advisor recommended, she decided to take her science requirement, and enrolled in an introductory astronomy class. The rest is history. On May 16, Schmidt will graduate with a double major in astronomy and physics, and come fall, she'll continue life as a student, this time at the University of Washington in Seattle. Schmidt spoke to Barnard about her academic interests, her long-term career goals, and why constellations really don't matter in astronomy.

**Barnard:** What was it about that astronomy class that appealed to you?

**Sarah Schmidt:** In astronomy you figure out very complex systems based on what little you can see. There's no other way to investigate things. You quickly encounter the problem of not being able to walk up to things and test them the way you can in another science. It was a new way of thinking for me. When I first studied physics, we were given problems to work on that had been solved thousands of times. I knew what I was supposed to learn. What I didn't know was what I was missing out on, what I couldn't figure out. As I've progressed in upper-level classes, it's been more revealing; there are lots of questions that have never before been answered.

**B:** How did you spend the summer after your first year here?

**SS:** I didn't pursue research even though I was pretty sure I was going into astronomy. I had wanted to be a camp counselor ever since I was 10, so I gave that a shot at a camp in Wisconsin. On the plus side, I took out a star map and learned half the constellations. It's funny, you could have an astronomer give a talk on some object that's in the sky and if you were to ask her where it was, she'd have no idea. The position of something in the sky is only relevant in the sense that sometimes you can look at it using a telescope and sometimes you can't. So constellations are fun, but completely irrelevant.



"I see myself as a professor at a university," senior Sarah Schmidt says about her long-term career goals.

**B:** Was Barnard the right choice?

**SS:** I've always felt it was the right choice, but for no real reason. I didn't choose Barnard because it's a women's college, but I'm very glad it was. In terms of building confidence in a scientific world, there are no upper-level courses here, but I have a support system that's helped me along. The Barnard department is very nice and very supportive, they want to see you doing your best. Also having a group of fellow women in science to do problem sets with, to fill out the classes, has helped more than I think many people realize it does. I once researched women in science for a course, and it warned me of what is out there. There are inherent biases in science academia that leave women out in the cold, in terms of collaborations and applications.

**B:** Why are you going to graduate school?

**SS:** I am intent on becoming a researcher. Graduating with an astrophysics degree from Barnard or Columbia, you can get a good job straight off, so there's no need to get a Ph.D. unless you want to continue in research. I see myself as a professor at a university. I'm interested in teaching as well.

**B:** How do you feel about leaving Barnard and New York?

**SS:** I really like being here. I have a group of friends that I am very happy with, I have liked my classes. But I am ready to move on. I'm interested in taking fewer classes and doing more research, which is what happens in graduate school. And I'm prepared for that. I'm very confident that I'm doing what I want to do next year.

—Dimitra Kessenides

## faculty spotlight

## My Life In French

By Caroline Weber as told to Jean-Michele Gregory

**A**fter seven years of teaching at the University of Pennsylvania, Caroline Weber joined the faculty last fall as an associate professor of French. Here she talks about her influences, her upcoming book, *Queen of Fashion: What Marie Antoinette Wore to the French Revolution* (Henry Holt, 2006), and her transition to Barnard life.

My mother's side of the family is French, but they moved to America a long time ago. They actually left France during the French Revolution, which is the period I've specialized in. But when I was younger I went to a French school in Switzerland and learned the French language at a pretty young age. My school in Switzerland demanded a certain amount of specialization even at the age of 11, so if you liked literature classes and language, that's pretty much all you did.

Then I went to Harvard, which I loved, but one of the quirky things about Harvard is that they make you declare your major at the end of your first year. I didn't feel like I had a lot of knowledge to pick anything else as a major, so I kind of got channeled into this—both as a 12-year-old and then again as an 18-year-old. And it was positively reinforcing, because I love it. But it's meant that I've been doing all this for a really long time.

My first book came out with an academic press three years ago, and I really enjoyed working with the editor there, but for 10 years I've been writing in a strictly academic vein. At my stage of academia—which is not so junior anymore—the thought is, OK, what are we doing with our lives? A lot of my friends talk about how they want to be a public intellectual and how they want to reach the world. I don't know if my ambitions are quite that grandiose, but it would definitely be nice to reach more people.

Both my parents have Ph.D.s, but when they tried to read my first book they found it dense and boring and spe-

cialized—and not written for them. So one of the challenges for me in writing for the trade press has been to relate a serious, scholarly argument about Marie Antoinette's clothes in a more accessible way. My parents and my students are the kinds of people I keep in mind when I'm writing now: really educated people who don't necessarily already know everything there is to know about my tiny little field.

Everyone thinks they have some picture of Marie Antoinette, but it's a picture that is so different when you look at it up close. The myth of her as this frivolous, flouncy, over-dressed queen is one that we carry around uncritically. But if you think about the fact that a lot of the leaders of the new French Republic were talking seriously about her clothing as a political problem—they would say things like, "The way her hair is dressed is proof that she is out to betray France"—it suggests a deeper, more controversial, and more exciting political meaning to her clothes.

I take my teaching seriously. I wouldn't have wound up in this profession if I hadn't had professors of both sexes committed to helping me find my voice at a young age. Colleagues of mine have joked, "If a Barnard student doesn't like something in your class, she'll let you know." And thus far, that hasn't been anything but a blessing. It makes one's life as a teacher and a thinker really, really nice. It clarifies for me all the things that my Barnard alumnae friends have said to me about the College all these years.

Meeting students who are so enthusiastic and hungry to learn means that you want to do your best for them. At the same time, I've been operating under a really intense writing deadline. It just means I haven't slept or seen my friends or husband much for the last year. One of the sad ironies of this project is that I feel like I've never been more terribly dressed than the year that I spent writing on Marie Antoinette—between teaching and writing there is no time. I'm waiting to catch up on about a year's worth of *Vogue*.



Caroline Weber, whose book about Marie Antoinette's manner of dress is due out in September, is wrapping up her first year as a professor of French.



## connections

## Right On The Money

**A**ccording to the Consumer Federation of America, Americans today are tapping into their savings accounts more than any time since 1933. And one in five Americans believes the fastest and best way to become wealthy is to win the lottery. Powerball might provide a windfall, but playing it doesn't qualify as smart financial planning. Barnard women, like most Americans, could use a bit of schooling on various personal finance topics. "So many Barnard women are accomplished, intelligent, dynamic, and successful, but many are at sea as far as their personal finances are concerned," says Trustee Patricia Harrigan Nadosy '68. Nadosy is one of handful of alumnae who hatched the idea for a course to help graduates with these issues. As the planning and development of the course evolved over the past two years, affinity groups, especially Project Continuum, through steering committee members Judith Boies '59 and Camille Kelleher '70, supported and helped focus the idea on financial and retirement planning. Christine Valenza Shin '84 came on board as organizer last summer.

The four-part seminar, presented by Alumnae Affairs, took place from late January into mid-February, and covered a range of topics, from investment basics to retirement planning. Thirty-two alumnae returned to campus to boost their financial fluency. Below, three participants tell us what they learned.

**Barbara Kantowitz Kalvert '64, former cultural affairs arts administrator, New City, NY**

***Why did you take the course?***

I've wanted to get a better understanding of my own personal finances for a long time, since I turned 50. That's when I began to think more about the future. My husband's always handled this, and I decided I need to know, too. I've been invited to other seminars by stock and investment people, but I felt such confidence in the fact that this would be run by Barnard and it would be done in a non-prejudicial way.

***Aside from the course, what sorts of things did you start doing to learn about finances?***

I talked to our insurance person and to our accountant. Then we hired a financial advisor together about seven years ago, partially because I felt that I needed a lot of answers to questions. I talked to him. I started reading the *Wall Street Journal* on my own.

***Tell us something you learned that you'll soon use.***

My husband and I have been working to diversify our own portfolio over the past seven years. The course gave me the formula for

allocation of dollars based on age and circumstance. It confirmed that we're on the right track, moving towards the correct percentages, and have the appropriate mix. That was comforting. I also learned you can set up a college savings account, a 529, for a grandchild, so I'm going to look into that.

**Anna Lee '82, Glen Cove, NY**

***Why did you take the course?***

I am going through a divorce. I have been a homemaker for almost nine years and now I need to have a more complete picture of what is necessary to handle my finances. I was managing my household finances prior to the course. However, I did not have the big picture. I simply paid the bills and bought a few stocks and mutual funds. There was no assessment of my financial status and no plan for my financial future, no goals. So I needed something to tie everything together, and I needed to define some goals to work towards.

***Tell us something you learned that you'll soon use.***

My next step is developing a plan of action, and the course helped me do this. I came out of that and knew I had to find and meet with a financial advisor, which I've done. And I consolidated my various holdings—stocks, IRAs, other bits and pieces—into one account. One of the things the course really helped me with is it gave me the vocabulary to speak to a financial advisor. Before, I would just go in and sign things without understanding what I was signing. Now the divorce has forced me to look at everything and to understand; the course reinforced that.

**Frances Morrison '91, physician, New York, NY**

***Why did you take the course?***

I gave birth to my second son in late February and I want to be sure my husband and I are saving appropriately. I'll be taking some time off indefinitely, and since I'll have more time, I want to be more proactive in decisions affecting our retirement planning and savings.

***Tell us something you learned that you'll soon use.***

We've used the information about financial planners in a project we're doing with some real estate investments. I got out my notebook and refreshed my memory about checking out the various certifications. Also, we started a 529 plan after our first son was born. The first year after he was born the account went down. It didn't make any sense to us. So I learned that rather than stop investing, it's important to keep putting money in. That was counter-intuitive.

—Staff



**More seminar coverage.**

from the archives

## My Funny Valentine

**O**f all the sweethearts I have known  
No more I see them, dear  
If my greatest love has long since flown  
My latest love is all your own

These and other words recently caught our attention when perusing some digital images of a series of four student scrapbooks, dating from 1903 to 1918, that now reside in the Barnard College Archives in newly restored form. These words of love, on the page pictured at right, are from the scrapbook of Sophie Parsons Woodman, who started at the College in the fall of 1903. Woodman, a native New Yorker, was the historian of her junior class, president of the Barnard Chapter of the Young Women's Christian Association, and founding editor of the *Barnard College Alumnae Bulletin* (today's *Barnard*).

According to archivist Donald Glassman, Woodman's scrapbook boasts compelling details and glimpses into some of the preoccupations of Barnard women in the early part of the twentieth century. The valentine is noteworthy, Glassman says, given the open expression of love and affection between two women. "While it is cryptic, the writer most likely is a girl," he says. Female college students routinely sent flowers, valentines, and other tokens of love to each other as part of a culture at the turn of the twentieth century which supported women's romantic friendships, and which, in turn, were accepted within the context of early twentieth century sexual mores, according to Rona Wilk '91. Wilk, who recently received her Ph.D. in history from New York University, wrote the article, "What's a Crush? A Study of Crushes and Romantic Friendships at Barnard College, 1900-1920" (*OAH Magazine of History*, July 2004).

Of the other notes, the one at top left is also worth pointing out. It includes a catalogue of the church affiliations of active and associate members of the Barnard YWCA chapter. "At the time, the only religious organizations at Barnard were Protestant," Glassman says. "The YWCA only admitted members of 'approved' Protestant denominations, but it's interesting to note here that members of the excluded groups—Catholics, Unitarians, and Jews among them—accepted this concession of 'associate' membership."

The scrapbooks were selected for conservation last fall. A grant from the New York State Program for the Conservation and Preservation of Library Research Materials funded the work by the Northeast Document Conservation Center in Andover, Mass.

—Staff



The page pictured above comes from one of four scrapbooks, dating from the early 1900s, that are part of the recently completed scrapbook conservation project to restore, preserve, and microfilm the volumes.

## CALENDAR

May 2006

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16

**BARNARD COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT.** Commencement address by author Francine du Plessix Gray '52. Lehman Lawn, 2:30 p.m. Visit <http://barnard.edu/commencement>.

June 2006

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8-11

**REUNION.** Reconnect to the College and to each other. For more information and to register call 1-800-869-5061, or visit <http://alum.barnard.edu/reunion2006>.

July 2006

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27-30

**BARNARD IN THE BERKSHIRES.** Four days and three nights of art, dance, music, and theatre, organized by Alumnae Affairs. For more information and to register call 212-854-2005.



# Can You Relate?

*Examining the role of stereotypes and prejudice in human interaction*

**T**ake a handful of ordinary fifth-grade boys, divide them into groups, and put those groups into competition with one another. You'll soon find that the groups have become enemies. The social psychologist Muzafer Sherif demonstrated this in his classic experiment from the 1950s, in which he recruited two groups of boys to share a summer

camp. The groups initially were unaware of each other. When the staff told the groups about their counterparts, each united in opposition to their newfound enemies. Further contact led, as Associate Professor of Psychology Steven Stroessner explained, to "open hostility, a lot of name-calling, attempts to intimidate the opposition, and rule violations such as raiding the other camps." Stroessner recounted the story to his Social Psychology class (BC 1136/1138) in a large lecture room in Barnard Hall on a brisk February afternoon. Sherif had predicted this might happen, Stroessner continued. "But he was surprised at how intense the hostility became," he said. "The experience for the boys had become all about hating the other group."

The lesson was a dismal one, but it had its consolations. It was all too easy to turn the boys into enemies, but it also proved possible to overcome that enmity. After several ill-fated attempts to reduce tensions by means of group activities, such as an ice cream social, Sherif arranged to have a supply truck stall on its way to the camp. The groups had to work together, pulling the truck to get it moving again. After successful completion of this task, the mutual hostility waned. "This is what is called a super-

ordinate goal," Stroessner explained to his class of about 100 students. "There is no doubt from a lot of other studies that when you have groups that work together and the input of both groups is required for successful completion, that intergroup hostility can be decreased."

Any thorough account of the ways in which human groups interact is going to spend a lot of time looking at conflict. Indeed, prejudice is one of the areas about which social

psychology has the most to say. The approaches to these questions have evolved over time. Social psychologists used to assume that stereotypes and prejudice were a kind of mental sickness. Later, they saw that the sickness might not just afflict individuals but whole societies. The German philosopher Theodor Adorno argued that there was an "authoritarian personality"—servile to the powerful and despotic to the weak—that tended toward both political



Boys will be boys: as social psychologists have established, they can be enemies or friends.

conservatism and racism. Sherif's experiment was designed to test the theory that the incidence of group conflict corresponded to competition between groups for resources.

Stroessner's own research is part of the outpouring of studies on prejudice that social psychologists have done over the past 15 years with a "cognitive" approach to prejudice. We all use, the theory argues, physical classifications to make the chaos of social life easily legible. "This is kind of how our minds work, not just with people, but with things in the world," explains Stroessner, sitting in his office in Milbank Hall. "We simplify, we assign people to categories. We can't

*continued on page 64*

## Inspired Giving

### Largest outright gift in Barnard's history goes to Nexus

**F**und raising for the Nexus—the new building planned for Barnard that will feature a mix of academic, cultural, and social spaces—was recently galvanized by an \$11 million commitment, the largest outright gift in Barnard's history, from trustee Diana T. Vagelos '55 and her husband, P. Roy Vagelos, M.D. In addition to a \$5 million gift, the couple has issued a matching-gift challenge to alumnae and friends. Dr. and Mrs. Vagelos will contribute up to \$5 million to match, on a one-to-two basis, each gift of more than \$250,000 for the Nexus. And they will give \$1 million to match gifts by donors who increase their current giving levels through Nexus gifts of up to \$250,000. The matches have raised \$2.1 million to date, bringing total Nexus commitments to \$26.9 million. Recently, the Vageloses shared their thoughts about Barnard and the importance of the Nexus project.

**Barnard:** How would you describe your experience at Barnard?

**Diana Vagelos:** Barnard was a challenging yet intimate and supportive community to grow in. Although I was a commuter, I felt I was a part of everything that was happening on campus. Dean Millicent McIntosh set an inspirational tone by conveying the message that there was nothing we couldn't reach for, including a career and family. I think it is especially appropriate that a space in the Nexus will honor her memory.

**B:** Why have you continued your relationship with the College and with your classmates?

**DV:** The Class of 1955 was a friendly class and still is. Throughout the years, we've been happy to see each other again. For one thing, I like seeing my friends because I usually get the best suggestions for my reading list. It's exciting for us to see what's going on at the College and to feel that we're part of it. I think the benefits of a women's college in New York City are appreciated more today than ever before—a place like Barnard can be invaluable to a promising young woman who wants to find her place in the world. It's also invigorating to meet today's diverse students—I feel as though I'm seeing the future through their eyes.

**B:** What do you think Barnard women have in common?



*On a recent visit to Barnard, Diana Toulitau Vagelos '55 and P. Roy Vagelos talked about the Nexus and community.*

**DV:** I think that for many women, Barnard is the first place where they are genuinely encouraged to be independent, both as people and as thinkers. By being exposed to different points of view, a Barnard student realizes that she needs to consider all perspectives on a question before making a choice or pursuing a path.

**Roy Vagelos:** It seems to me that the lives that Barnard women lead are varied, interesting, and stimulating, no matter where they are. I know from personal experience that they are independent thinkers, and they value that trait in others.

**B:** Why should alumnae, parents, and friends support the Nexus?

**DV:** I think that when Roy and I established the Vagelos Alumnae Center, we didn't fully appreciate just how vital and necessary it would be. It helps alumnae feel that they are still a part of the Barnard community and that they always will be. The Nexus will operate in the same way, but for multiple populations—students, faculty, staff, and



visitors as well as alumnae. It will give everyone more opportunities to connect with each other.

**RV:** We're hoping the Nexus will make it easier and more desirable for students to know their community. And of course, it will provide more space for some of Barnard's strongest academic programs, including a new black-box theatre and enhanced facilities for the archaeology, architecture, and art departments.

**B:** Through your two challenge grants, you're hoping to inspire others to give to the Nexus. What moved you to do this?

**DV:** We believe that the extended Barnard community needs to think big about Barnard. We should support our College to the same degree that alumni of peer institutions support their colleges. That's the message we really want to send: all of us need to stretch our imaginations and our pocketbooks.

**RV:** Also, Diana and I want every donor to know that his or her gift is valuable, no matter the size. So we're matching everyone who gives significantly more than they usually do, regardless of the amount, because everyone's dollars matter. It's the stretch and the intent that's important.

**B:** What kind of a response do you expect?

**DV:** We happen to be optimists; we expect an excellent response. Even more desirable would be an overwhelming response. This project is vitally important to the future of Barnard. By working together, we can ensure that Barnard stays at the vanguard.

—Amy E. Hughes

# Faculty Focus

## English and math departments to benefit from new professorships

Ask an alumna to explain what was special about her Barnard experience and it's a safe bet she will name a professor, or two, who nurtured her critical thinking and intellectual growth. Barnard's community of scholars is one of its greatest assets, and attracting and supporting professors is a top priority. Two new professorships established by two donors will help further that goal.

Investment manager and philanthropist Richard Gilder has established a professorship in literary history in his own name to provide research and salary support for English professor James Basker, who also serves as president of the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. The institute promotes and supports the study of U.S. history through fellowships, publications, and other initiatives. "Jim's a versatile teacher and an amazingly productive scholar," says Gilder.

Basker, a scholar of eighteenth-century history and literature and an authority on slavery and abolition, recently published *Amazing Grace: An Anthology of Poems about Slavery, 1660-1810* (Yale University Press, 2002). He currently is working on a book about Samuel Johnson's role in the abolition movement. "Literary writers humanized Africans and African-Americans in stories, songs, poems, plays, and novels. Out of that grew a political movement to abolish slavery," says Basker. "To me, abolition is the most dramatic example of why literature matters: it can change the moral sensibilities and awareness of a whole civilization."

The mathematics department will also benefit from a new professorship: The Helen Lyttle Kimmel '42 Chair in Mathematics. Kimmel was a mathematics major, as was her sister, Joan



James Basker is the Richard Gilder Professor of Literary History.

Lyttle Birman '48. A third sister, the late Ruth Lyttle Satter '44, majored in physics. Birman joined the mathematics department in 1973, and is currently research professor and professor emerita. Kimmel, who through her philanthropic endeavors has been a strong supporter of academic research in the sciences, said, "I am happy to know that this professorship will support a scientist of international stature whose research is in mathematics, which has been called the 'Queen of the Sciences,' at Barnard College."

According to Birman, "Mathematics is often thought of mainly for its application to other sciences. But when you ask people in finance, or in medical or law school admissions, why they like math majors, they say 'it is not necessarily because of their skills, but because mathematicians are trained to analyze problems clearly.' On the other hand, those who love math for its own sake are attracted to its beauty, unity, and creativity. The new professorship has instantly raised the profile of the College in the math community. It's a marvelous thing for Barnard."

—AEH

For information about making a gift to the Nexus, or about honoring Mrs. McIntosh with a gift to the Nexus, contact Reva Feinstein, Director of Major Gifts, at [rfeinstein@barnard.edu](mailto:rfeinstein@barnard.edu) or 212-854-2001.

# Challenging Times

## Four women dare fellow alumnae to rise to the challenge

### The Challenge:

**To motivate the Class of 1981 to raise \$250,000 in honor of its 25th reunion**

### The Challenger:

**Jolyne Caruso-FitzGerald '81, Trustee**

I absolutely loved my time at Barnard. It inspired me to be a leader in everything I do, including my giving and support of causes. College was the best experience of my life, so I work hard as a trustee, and I give as generously as I can.

Barnard students are brilliant, driven, talented, and inspiring. It's up to us to ensure that the transformative experience we had 25 years ago is available to them today. I will match every dollar above \$250 donated by members of '81, up to \$125,000, between now and their fifth reunion (and my 50th).



### The Challenge:

**To encourage nondonors from the classes of 1996 through 2005 to make a gift this year**

### The Challenger:

**Jyoti Menon '01**

Although young alumnae often have the closest connection to Barnard, it's difficult for us to think of giving back. Many of us are paying back loans and getting our careers started. Sometimes young alumnae don't contribute because they think they must give a lot of money. But combined gifts can make a big impact. I will give \$10 for every new donor in the classes of 1996-2005.

Natalie Mauro '06 (left), Jyoti Menon '01 (center), and Julia Xiao '06 are encouraging their classmates to give to the College.



### To read about ongoing challenges

To accept any of the challenges above, go to <http://giving.barnard.edu>, or send a check to:

The Barnard Fund  
Barnard College  
3009 Broadway  
New York, N.Y. 10027

Questions?  
Call 212-854-2001 or 866-257-1889 (toll-free) or e-mail [thebarnardfund@barnard.edu](mailto:thebarnardfund@barnard.edu)

### The Challenge:

**To inspire at least 61 percent of the Class of 1961 to make a gift in honor of their 45th reunion**

### The Challenger:

**Dorothy Memolo Bhedda '61**

When I tell someone I went to Barnard College, I often get a "wow" reaction. I received a tremendous education, from which I continue to benefit. I know my annual gift to the College helps secure the teachers, facilities, and countless other things needed to keep Barnard strong, and that's important to me. Last year, our class participation rate was 49 percent. To reach 61 percent, 178 classmates must make a gift this year. I will give up to \$2,000 to match gifts from classmates who haven't given to The Barnard Fund in the past five years.

### The Challenge:

**To make giving to Barnard a priority for this year's graduating class**

### The Challenger:

**Elaine Schlozman Chapnick '61 PA 93, Trustee**

Barnard opened up the world for me—the lessons of the past, the challenges of the present, the excitement of envisioning the future. I have always felt a strong connection to the College and I want to repay Barnard for what it so freely and generously gave to me.

To encourage this year's graduates to think about what Barnard means to them, over the next five years I will add \$10 to every gift made by a member of the Class of 2006.



# And The Nominee Is...

**W**inning isn't everything. That's what Pia Clemente '93 says about her recent ride through the experience that is the Academy Awards. This year's Oscar for live-action short film did not go to Clemente's *Our Time Is Up*, making this one of those rare occasions when being nominated really does mean more in the end than being handed a gold-plated statuette. "These last weeks have reinvigorated my passion for filmmaking," Clemente says. "I think you are allowed to have your doubts, but occasionally you need to be refreshed ... That's what the nomination did for me."

The Oscar experience came just when Clemente was searching for some reawakened creativity. She had moved to Los Angeles in 1995 to become a filmmaker (she received a master of fine arts from the American Film Institute in 1997). But making a living in Hollywood can be tough. After pursuing the moviemaking track for several years, Clemente shifted primarily to commercials; the work was steadier, and more lucrative. Still, the former English major dreamt of devoting more time to narrative film projects.

A chance came in January 2003. Clemente met aspiring director Rob Pearlstein through a mutual friend; Pearlstein was developing a script and he needed a producer. So the two decided to work together on what became the 14-minute *Our Time Is Up*, the story of a therapist who has just learned he has only six weeks to live. The film was shot over two and a half days in Los Angeles.



"I came to Los Angeles to be a storyteller," says Pia Clemente.

After production wrapped, Clemente returned to her commercial work. Then on January 31 of this year came the news: the film had just been nominated for an Academy Award. "I was so thrilled, so shocked," she says.

The recognition strengthened Clemente's connection to her Filipino culture. Clemente is the first female Filipino-American to be nominated for an Academy Award, so the nod has been a great source of pride not only among her family and friends, but also among the Filipino-American community. "The community embraced me," she says. "I didn't realize the great extent their support has borne upon me, but I am forever grateful."

The weeks leading up to the March 5 ceremony included the search for the perfect dress. Clemente looked to designers from the Filipino community for something reflective of her culture. She ultimately chose a champagne-

colored gown accented with glass beadwork and painted-on tattoos done in the *pintados* style—a decorative technique, indigenous to the Philippines, reflecting a person's lineage and place in society. Family from across the country joined Clemente for the big day in Los Angeles; her parents accompanied her down the red carpet and to the ceremony at Los Angeles' Kodak Theatre. "The best part of the day was having my family gathered together, and having their support and love," Clemente says.

Now, creativity reawakened, dreams uncovered, Clemente is developing new work, including a film she hopes to shoot in the Philippines. It's a way to give back to a community she's received so much from. "You wonder where in life you are going to make history," Clemente says. "I'm so proud that I could do something for the community."

—Allison Enright

# quick takes



*Ilise Carter and her fellow Pyrate Sisters insist on vintage Hollywood glamour in their sideshow.*

## Le Freak, C'est Chic

Feel free to call Ilise Carter '95 by her stage name, "Lady Aye." That's the persona Carter assumes as one third of the burlesque group the Pyrate Sisters (her name's a twist on her first initial, and some Pyrate slang). Inspired by the performers Penn & Teller, the Sisters' act blends comedy, sideshow elements, and a touch of glamour. The "daring acts by dainty ladies," as their Web site notes, can be seen in New York and nationally (their schedule is at [www.evilkid.com/pyratesisters](http://www.evilkid.com/pyratesisters)). Carter is the Sisters' CEO—Chief Etiquette Officer—a job that requires serious multi-tasking: glass eating, straitjacket striptease, escapism. Below, she takes us into the sideshow world.

**Barnard:** What's it take to be a Pyrate Sister?

**Ilise Carter:** We joke around that we have family rules about being classy and glamorous on stage. Or imagining you are, even if you have a fork up

your nose. As CEO, I offer the audience an etiquette lesson: I put the fork in my nose, then ask people, 'what's wrong with this picture?' The answer: The fork goes on the left.

**B:** What are the misconceptions people have about sideshow performers?

**IC:** I think the standard is very different between men and women. I've gotten asked to do things that male performers aren't asked to do, like to perform shows topless. People think it's a lifestyle thing like it somehow extends to my sexuality. Not necessarily. I love it and it's fun, but it's one thing I do.

**B:** What's in the Pyrate Sisters' future?

**IC:** I very much like my day job as a copywriter, so I don't see this becoming full time. But I would like to see the sideshow become something stable, and tour other cities. Someone approached us about a reality show, but that didn't work out. I'm not sure what's going to develop or how it's going to develop, but I'm really excited watching it grow.

—Kewannah Wallace

## new & upcoming releases

To be considered for "Books, etc.," please e-mail us at [classnotes@barnard.edu](mailto:classnotes@barnard.edu)

### FICTION

#### The PMS Murder: A Jaine Austen Mystery

by Laura Levine '65  
Kensington Publishing Corp., 2006, \$19.95

### POETRY

#### Escape Velocity: The Ragged Sky

Poetry Series  
by Arlene Weitz Weiner '61  
Ragged Sky, 2006, \$10

### NONFICTION

#### Syracuse African Americans (Black America Series)

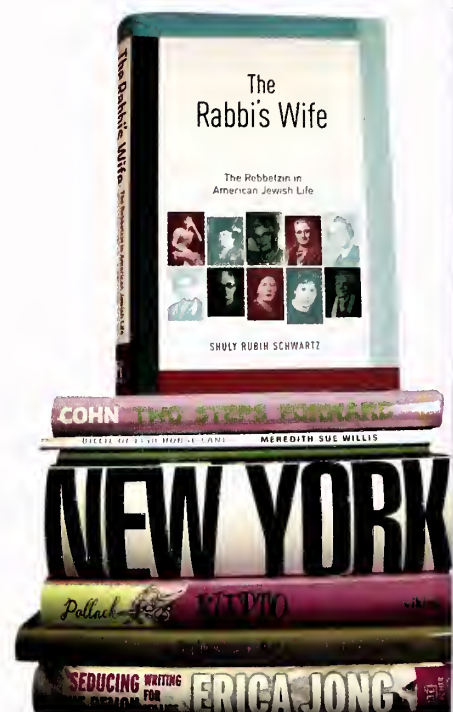
by Barbara Sheklin Davis '65  
Arcadia Publishing, 2006, \$19.99

#### Children Exposed to Violence

by Margaret Feerick '89, Gerald B. Silverman  
Brookes Publishing, 2006, \$34.95

#### New York

Text by Tama Janowitz '77,  
edited by Esther Gross Kremer '96  
Assouline, 2006, \$49.95





## Bronx D.A.: True Stories from the Sex Crimes and Domestic Violence Unit

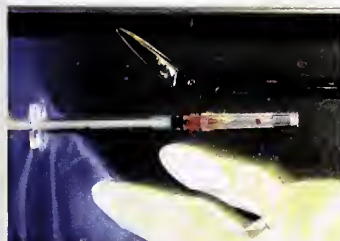
by Sarena Straus '92

Barricade Books, 2006, \$22

# BRONX D.A.

True Stories from the Sex Crimes and Domestic Violence Unit

SARENA STRAUS



Fresh out of Fordham Law School, Sarena Straus '92 took a job in the Sex Crimes and Domestic Violence Unit of the Bronx District Attorney's office. As a prosecutor, her daily routine exposed her to gruesome rapes, murders, and acts of violence committed against women and children. After she left the Bronx, she tried to make sense of these harrowing experiences by writing a memoir about them. Today, Straus is an in-house lawyer

for Aurora Healthcare Consulting. She works on a pro bono basis for the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art. She shared some of her views on crimes, and criminals, with *Barnard*.

**Barnard:** Why did you go to law school?

**Sarena Straus:** When I was at Barnard, I found out that there is a history of child abuse in my family. I realized that being a lawyer might give me the opportunity to be proactive about protecting other victims. By the time I started law school, I knew exactly what

I wanted to do ... prosecute crimes against children.

**B:** Why do people become monsters?

**SS:** Most of the people who commit these crimes aren't as much monsters as people who've been so damaged in their own lives that they don't function, think, or love in the same way we do. My work was often as sad as it was horrifying.

**B:** Having witnessed the criminal justice system in action, do you think it works?

**SS:** I was pleasantly surprised by the trial jury system and very unpleasantly surprised by the grand jury system [which determines if a government case brought against an individual has enough evidence to proceed to trial]. By and large, trial juries try very hard to do what's right. As for the grand jury system, the people on them were bored, or eating their lunch.

**B:** Why did you leave?

**SS:** I was emotionally burned out, and I thought maybe there was another way for me to help people besides trying cases. That was part of the reason for writing the book. Instead of trying to cleanup after the mess, I wanted to try and prevent these problems from happening in the first place.

**B:** Is there a lesson to take away from your book?

**SS:** I saw people's capacity to do evil, and it was much greater than I had ever understood. But I also saw the best that people are capable of. The police officers and prosecutors and social workers and hospital workers—they're not doing it for the money. They're doing it because they want to help.

—Andrew Rimas

## Seducing the Demon: Writing for My Life

by Erica Jong '63

Tarcher, 2006, \$22.95

## Factors Affecting Learning and Cost Effective Schooling in Latin America: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Mexico

by Laura (Rosenbaum) Randall '57

Edwin Mellen, 2006, \$119.95

## The Rabbi's Wife: The Rebbetzin in American Jewish Life

by Shuly Rubin Schwartz '74

New York University Press, 2006, \$35

## Industry in Art: Pittsburgh, 1812 to 1920

by Rina C. (Balter) Youngner '55

University of Pittsburgh Press, 2006, \$29.95

## YOUNG READERS

### Two Steps Forward

by Rachel Cohn '89

Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, 2006, \$25.95

## Klepto

by Jenny Pollack '91

Viking Juvenile, 2006, \$16.99

## Billie of Fish House Lane

by Meredith Sue Willis '69

Montemayor Press, 2006, \$12.95

## C D s

### Athena Masci

Athena Masci '00

DEITY RECORDS, 2006, \$17.92

### Mouthing Off

The MetropolitONES featuring

Alia Winters '00

2006, \$15



Complete Books, Etc. listing

# The Whole CARE Package

In tackling some of the world's toughest social and health problems, Helene Gayle says women will play a key role.

By Melissa Phipps

**A**t the end of March, Dr. Helene Gayle '76 left a roughly \$1.5 billion grant-making portfolio as director of the HIV, TB, and Reproductive Health Program of the world's largest philanthropy, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, to become president and CEO of CARE, a premier humanitarian organization with the lofty mission of eradicating poverty around the globe by focusing on problems that lead to crises in public health, such as lack of food, clean water, education, and women's rights. If anyone is up to the challenge, it is Helene Gayle.





**A**s the first woman and first African-American to head the Atlanta-based CARE, Gayle is indeed a trailblazer. Since her childhood days in Buffalo, N.Y., she has been committed to contributing to the greater good. Gayle was premed and studied psychology as an undergraduate, figuring medicine was one way to help the world. While earning an M.D. at the University of Pennsylvania, Gayle became intrigued by the idea of applying medicine as a way to affect the health of populations, and decided to pursue a career in public health. In 1981 she earned a master's in public health from Johns Hopkins University. Gayle spent the bulk of her career—20 years—at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, studying malnutrition in children in the United States and around the world. While there, she witnessed the spread of HIV and AIDS from very early on and became a widely recognized expert on the disease, as well as other infectious diseases affecting international populations. She has served as coordinator and chief of the HIV/AIDS division of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and has been a consultant to the World Health Organization, the World Bank, and UNICEF.

When *Barnard* spoke with Gayle in mid-February, she was preparing to make a transition to what she has referred to as “the other side of the checkbook.” She discussed her latest endeavor and the challenges she and CARE face in helping to make the world a better place.

**BARNARD:** How will your work at CARE differ from what you have been doing for the Gates Foundation?

**HELENE GAYLE:** They are two totally different organizations. The only similarity is that they are both charitable bodies. The Gates Foundation is a philanthropic, grant-making organization that gives money to support organizations such as CARE and others to implement programs that help make a difference in poor nations. The work I've been doing is focused on global health—from developing new tools and technologies, like vaccines and diagnostics, to finding drugs that treat diseases that primarily affect people in poor nations, as well as developing tools that try to use existing technologies effectively. CARE is very different. It is an operational organization that provides services and has a mandate that's more broadly focused on reducing poverty and the diseases associated with poverty.

**B:** What are some of the issues CARE focuses on?

**HG:** One is gender inequity. The fact that women don't have the full ability to share in development, don't have economic and educational options, means you have a large portion—50 percent or more—of the population that is not helping to build communities and nations.

Another is access to education, so that people have better economic options—things like water and sanitation, which are so basic to health and nutrition; emergency relief; better agricultural development.

All of the fundamentals—food, water, economic opportunities, education—can have a huge impact on an individual's, as well as a society's, ability to develop and enter into the global economy.



“You can throw money at a problem, but without the right solutions you won’t erase inequalities.”

**B:** What do you expect will be the biggest challenges you’ll face in this new role?

**HG:** It’s a new spot in some ways. I’ve always been on the donor end, at the Gates Foundation, and before that as a government funder working at the CDC and at USAID. This is the first time I’ve taken on a role that includes raising funds as part of its mission. So it will be different. But I think the biggest part of raising funds is selling something you believe in, and I really believe in this organization and its mission.

Clearly, taking on the helm of an organization like CARE, which operates in some 70 countries and has 10,000-plus employees, is a much bigger challenge. I look at it as a wonderful way to grow as a person, while helping to eliminate poverty and build communities.

**B:** Is there an amount of money that will solve the world’s problems, or does the answer involve something more than money?

**HG:** Resources are necessary. There is no question. We need money to make a difference in global health and global poverty. You can’t do those things for free. On the other hand, it also takes sound strategy. You can throw money at a problem, but if you don’t have the right solutions you will not be able to



Helene Gayle (far right) on a field trip to central Africa in 2002.

“If you want to eliminate poverty, you have to place women in the center of that.”

erase inequities. You need strategies that will empower communities, that will have long-lasting impact, that have been thought out, and that are based on the best evidence of what we know about what works and what doesn’t.

**B:** CARE places much emphasis on working with women to create social change. Do you believe that a woman president of the organization will make a difference to the women you are trying to reach?

**HG:** I hope so. My male predecessor at CARE would tell you he also cares greatly about women’s issues. They are key. If you are thinking about eliminating poverty, you have to place women at the center of that. Education, economic empowerment for women,

*continued on page 64*



[illegible]

## FOR BARNARD STUDENTS, VIEWS ON ABORTION TAKE SHAPE ONCE THEY ARRIVE ON CAMPUS

BY JENNIFER MORRILL



This is the first of what will be an occasional look at how students talk about challenging and charged issues in today's world, tied to the launch next fall of Barnard's "Religion, Freedom, and the Politics of Identity Project" (see "Difficult Dialogues," page 3).

**I**t is a gorgeous spring day in late April. The temperature is in the mid-60s, skies are clear, the breeze gentle. Barnard's campus could not look more inviting, from the majesty of Barnard Hall framed by soft cherry blossoms, to the regal magnolia tree at the northern end of the lawn opposite the library. Ten days before classes end and final exams start, and three weeks before Commencement, the level of activity is high, as evidenced, in part by the banners and flyers posted around the College. *"Joining McAc... Applications due April 24."* *"How do you talk about ABORTION with your GRANNY?"* *"Transformation and the Writer,"* *"Bacchanal 2006 Events."* *"How do you talk about ABORTION with your ROOMMATE?"*

Later the same day, at 9 p.m., the group Students For Choice holds its penultimate meeting of the semester in a room in Barnard Hall. The topic for the night: "Framing the Issue: Talking About Choice." About a dozen women sit around a table, each of them hoping to hear something that will help them have these conversations—about reproductive rights and abortion—with family, friends, classmates. One participant—one of the meeting's organizers—is looking for a way to talk about reproductive rights, first with her parents, then with her 12-year-old sister. Diana Price, a senior from Maine, has had some pretty heated discussions with a roommate, a friend, and her boyfriend over her pro-choice position. Once Dorian Deschesne graduates in May, she'll be heading back to her hometown of Poughkeepsie; she's at the table tonight so that she can better handle the difficult conversations she anticipates will play out once she returns home, given what she says are more conservative views on the subject among family members and friends. "Getting some practice, and learning some tips would be really helpful to me in handling an atmosphere where people may not always be as politically informed," Deschesne says.

"You want to bring people into the conversation, to really think about these issues, not to convince them of a point of view," says Anne Keenan, one of two discussion facilitators from Planned Parenthood, who will spend the next hour and a half talking through challenging questions and setting up exercises, practice questions and answers, between the women. "What you're doing is letting people into your feelings about abortion, and you're letting them let you into their feelings."

Clearly, talking about reproductive rights isn't as simple as coming up with a slogan and putting it on a bumper sticker, or a

button like some of the ones pictured here. "There is a place for signs and buttons and bumper stickers," says Sabrina Shulman, the second discussion facilitator, and a manager of organizing and advocacy for Planned Parenthood's New York City chapter. "That's like an ad campaign, especially if you're wearing it, it tells someone where you stand. But what we're talking about in these meetings is what you do after a person asks you about the T-shirt or the button. You have to have a way to talk about it beyond the phrase."

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The Supreme Court's 1973 decision in *Roe v. Wade*, guaranteeing abortion as a federally protected right, hardly put the matter to rest. Over the past 33 years, abortion has been among the most complicated and defining issues in the political arena. The rhetoric has become so charged that it has confused and alienated people on all sides with mixed, often inflexible messages. And with two new Supreme Court justices appointed by President George W. Bush this past year—Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito—as well as a South Dakota ban on almost all abortions (one allowable exception: an abortion will be permitted if a physician deems the procedure necessary to save a mother's life), the recent dialogue has been even more difficult.

College is a time when experiences profoundly shape views on a range of beliefs and ideals, given that many students are away from home and exposed to new and broader viewpoints, and to a greater diversity of people, for the first time. So college campuses are among the most active arenas for the issue. Barnard is a place where students can learn, beyond recognizing and defining their own and others' views, how to talk about complex and deeply personal beliefs and ideas. "Spirited discussion, supported by evidence and cogent reasoning, is central to the intellectual life of a first-rate college," says President Judith Shapiro. "It is the key to deciding which of your views are worth keeping, and making sure that the ones you keep can be advanced effectively when you encounter really smart people who disagree with you. And the more diverse the life experiences of those you interact with, the greater the chance of learning something new."

Nationally, students' views on issues from abortion to gun control, same sex marriage to stem cell research, are increasingly shaped by religion, spirituality, and morality, according to a survey released in mid-April by Harvard University's Institute of Politics. The report surveyed college students on a range of political issues: 61 percent of those surveyed say they view abortion as a

question of morality. Also, a fall survey of incoming first-year students by University of California-Los Angeles's Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) reported that 55.2 percent of those surveyed believe abortion should be legal. (Barnard is a participant in HERI's studies.)

Barnard's location in a generally liberal and progressive city, and the perception of the campus as such, is one reason many students decide to attend. Still, such a picture doesn't take into account the different positions and beliefs that can exist on the same side, as well as on opposite sides, of so many topics. "It's a generalization to say, 'Oh, this is a liberal campus, so everyone is liberal,'" says senior Diana Price. People might identify as liberal, but they probably haven't thought that through, she says, and once they do, ideas can shift some. As Price and the other women at the Students For Choice meeting discussed this April night, there are far more gray areas in abortion, even in a pro-choice position, than any tag lines or bumper stickers suggest.

Students do perceive a liberal atmosphere here, before they arrive and once on campus, says assistant professor of women's studies Rebecca Young. Conservative views aren't come by as easily, but Young attributes this largely to self-censorship. "There is room to voice anti-choice views, and I do hear such views," she says. Young includes both anti-choice and pro-choice materials on the course syllabus for "Women and Health," an introduction to women's health issues that considers the interaction of biological and sociocultural influences on women's health. "I invite students to think critically about the positions that are forwarded," she says. "I do not hide that I am pro-choice, but I do make it clear that those are my own views, and not the 'right' position on abortion, or a position that students in any way need to adopt in order to do well in my class."

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Sometimes, the college experience results in a complete shift on a position; more often, it seems, it enables a student to see how different positions can, and maybe should, co-exist. "When I got to campus I knew people would have much different views than I did," says one student, a senior from Connecticut. A practicing Roman Catholic, the young woman was firmly opposed to abortion at the outset of college. "I made a lot of friends, and pretty liberal ones. The first two years here, I really struggled with this issue of choice and the morality of abortion. And just the way I had a difficult time

understanding how someone could support abortion, I knew people would have difficulty with my position." The student anticipated inevitable discussions on the subject, especially at a women's college, and one that she too saw as predominantly liberal. "The only reasonable thing, I thought to myself, was that if I believe something, I shouldn't be afraid to talk about it, and I shouldn't be afraid of someone challenging my position."

IT'S  
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CAMPUS, SO EVERYONE IS LIBERAL.'  
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THE STUDENTS IN THAT ROOM  
ARE PRO-CHOICE.

—DIANA PRICE '06

But a turning point came for this student after an internship at a women's prison in upstate New York the summer after her second year. The work offered the undergrad a front-row view to the challenges faced by women in the correctional system, many of whom are mothers. Over the course of her internship, this student, who asked not to be named for this article, met an inmate who had been out of prison on a work release but was sent back to the facility because she got pregnant—a violation of her release.

"That was it for me," the student says.

"It really struck me that no matter what I thought of it morally, I have to trust that women know what they are doing." Whether or not this student holds the same belief for herself is still a question; and, even beyond her own actions, she struggles to find a clear stance. "I still have a hard time getting my head around the idea," she says. "I could never march somewhere, but I think it should be legal ... there shouldn't be a double-standard in who it's available to, and how safe it is. I do wish people would talk about it more, but there's still reluctance because it's so politicized, and we're constantly at risk that politicians will take the issue away from us."

Amreen Vora, a first-year from Albany, and a Muslim, similarly believes that her religious beliefs shouldn't dictate a position for everyone. "I probably have a confusing stance on abortion," she says. "I don't agree with it, it's not part of my religion. But I can't expect everyone to have the same view of it." Barnard was Vora's first choice: she applied, and was accepted, early. It was the lure of New York City and the ideals presented to her, in the catalogue and other materials, that influenced her choice. "There was the emphasis on diversity, and learning, hands-on, not just from books, but from going out and seeing things for myself," Vora says. And she saw the College as a place where both conservative and liberal stances would live together. "I never thought that I wouldn't be able to come here and express my position," she says. Her position on

*continued on page 66*





# Can We Afford It?

A SPECIAL REPORT ON  
FINANCIAL AID

We can't deny it, college and education costs are rising. And money doesn't grow on trees. But at some schools—at this school—there's an office called Financial Aid that exists to help someone get the education she desperately wants. In these pages, you'll learn a little bit more about what it takes to finance an education today.

# My Job

I started this job in January of last year. I came from Columbia, where I had worked in financial aid on and off for about 10 years. When the job at Barnard opened up, colleagues at Columbia called to say, "You're never going to get this chance again, you better apply." I knew this would be a really nice place to work—it was such a nice place to go to school. So I applied. I thought, "If I could get that job, that would be a dream."

You don't grow up and say, "I want to be a director of financial aid." I was a religion major. My graduate degree is in Greek and Latin, and I also did graduate work in higher education and history. I'm bad at numbers, but I'm not intimidated by them. I think this is one of those professions you grow into. You have to find a place that's willing to hire and train you, because you don't come into this understanding what you're looking at.

That's always the conundrum in financial aid. When you're looking for a good entry-level financial aid counselor, where do you look? You want somebody who's intelligent, well-spoken, and wants to learn, so you look everywhere. You certainly don't need an accounting degree, but you have to like analyzing puzzles, and trying to fit specific rules and regulations to different families. You have to try to be true to the mission of the school and to yourself. Then you do the best you can to come up with what you believe is a fair and reasonable package.

There's a huge counseling element to this job. I mean, how many people do you want to turn your tax returns over to? My assumption is that people see financial aid and finances, to a certain extent, as a barrier to attending college. The perception is that we're collecting as much information as possible to keep people from getting money. It's really the opposite—we try to get as

## YOU DON'T HAVE TO LOVE MATH TO BE DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL AID.

By Alison Rabil '86 as told to Dimitra Kessenides



Not sure you can afford Barnard? This woman can help you.

much information as we can so that we can assess a family's situation as reasonably as possible. The more information we have, the better off we're going to be, and the better off you're going to be. What we're really doing is making it accessible. We should be able to find a way to make sure you can fund this education. I see it as very open. We are more than willing to go through every piece of our process with you if you want to understand how we arrive at our numbers.

Families today do question the price tag on education. They want to know that it's definitely worth it. Part of my job is convincing families that it is worth it. I don't know how you prove that to somebody until their daughter has graduated, when they have this accomplished, self-confident woman on their hands. I have conversations with parents and tell them, "It's transforming. It's a wonderful place, where students grow, learn, and become themselves. They'll

be challenged, and they'll have access to enormous resources within the university."

With admissions, you apply, you want to get in, and when you do get in, you celebrate. Nobody celebrates financial aid, nobody goes, "Oh, yes!" I know very few families who do. It's more like, "Oh, thank God," or "Oh no, what am I going to do?" There's a certain amount of pride in what you're able to accomplish generally which you have to bring with you in order to enjoy this work, otherwise you wouldn't bother. You want to feel like you've spent what money you have to spend well, and that you've made it possible for families to handle this. And you want to be as equitable as you can be. Sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't. If it doesn't, you have to make your peace with that. In the end, people need to make decisions for themselves, and sometimes I can't help them with that.



# Show Them The Money

THE PRICE OF COLLEGE IS RISING. DON'T WORRY, THERE'S ALWAYS FINANCIAL AID.

By Ilana Polyak

## PAID IN FULL

For one alumna, student loan payments represented a transition to adulthood.

BY SUZANNE KLING '91

It was my monthly connection to Barnard. Every year, from six months after my college graduation until a few years ago, I received a coupon book imprinted with my name and Social Security number in the mail. Each month, I carefully tore out one payment slip, wrote a check, and dropped the envelope into a mailbox. The coupons followed me from my first postcollege apartment (a one bedroom that housed three Barnard grads) to the studio apartment I had all to myself in the summer of 1995, from New York City back home to Boston. The amount detailed on each slip remained the same, whether I was scraping by on my entry-level publishing salary, or climbing the payscale in various positions with Jewish communal and educational organizations. When I made my final payment, on January 15, 2004, I was surprised by the feelings that stirred in me—I was proud and relieved to be freed of the financial obligations. I phoned my mother to share the good news and found myself choking up.

When I was 18 years old, during orientation and shortly before the official start of the first semester, a kind person in Barnard's financial aid office showed me the dotted line on a bank promissory note, asking me to sign, and enlisting me, as it were, in a nationwide army of debtors. I thought of my older brother's coupon books. They struck me as such a grown-up accessory when I first saw them a few years before: they meant financial responsibility. It

*continued on page 67*

It's become almost fashionable to bemoan how expensive college has gotten. It's true, higher education costs rise in excess of income each year, on average 6 to 7 percent for colleges versus roughly 3 percent for wages. And students aren't getting much help from the federal government to ease the burden. Pell Grants, typically awarded to families with incomes of less than \$40,000, have been frozen at \$4,050 since 2003, when they increased by just \$50. And the interest rate for federally insured student loans is set to rise to 6.8 percent, the highest it's been since 2001.

That's one part of the picture. The other is that even as costs rise, highly selective colleges like Barnard figure out ways that students can make it affordable. The total bill for tuition, fees, and room and board for the 2005–2006 school year was just over \$44,000. "That's more than some people make," says Alison Rabil, the school's director of financial aid. It sounds insurmountable. It's not, and people shouldn't assume they'll end up paying full sticker price. "A family that makes \$50,000 isn't going to pay \$44,000," Rabil continues.

For many families, the price to pay for college hasn't risen astronomically, even as escalating tuitions grab the headlines. Because colleges charge so much more than they did 10 years ago, a greater swath of incomes is now eligible for financial aid. In fact, over the last 10 years, all grant aid received by students at private colleges (be it college aid, state, or federal) was up 60 percent, according to the College Board.

The net price—the amount that students and their families pay out of their own pockets—rose modestly. (A note about cost versus price: Cost refers to the amount of money it costs the College for a resident student to attend—to cover housing, faculty salaries, facilities maintenance and more. The true cost of attending Barnard is more than what the College actually charges students and their parents. That's in part enabled through donations to Barnard. Price, then, refers to what the College charges.) "People don't know that over half the people who attend these universities don't pay [in full]," says C. Anthony Broh, director of research with the Consortium on Financing Higher Education, an organization of 31 highly selective colleges, including Barnard.

At Barnard, 55 percent of the student body receives some form of aid, be it college grants, work-study programs, loans, or some combination of the three. The median family income of a student on financial aid is just

*continued on page 67*

# What's It Going To Cost Me?

**55%** OF BARNARD STUDENTS RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID. THEY'VE STILL GOT TO PAY SOMETHING. HERE, WE ANSWER THE QUESTION, "HOW DID YOU COME UP WITH OUR CONTRIBUTION?"

By Jeanne Lee

With help from Barnard's Financial Aid team, we decided to take apart a typical award offered to a prospective student and her family. Below, we demystify the numbers.

Our example is based on a first-year student who started at Barnard this past academic year, 2005-06. Our fictional New Jersey resident currently lives with her mom, 47, and dad, 48. The mom stays at home, and the dad is a school teacher who earns nearly \$60,000/year. Our student has two siblings in public high school. The family owns a \$100,000 home with about \$40,000 remaining on the mortgage.

The charges this past year totalled approximately \$44,352. That included the following: tuition and fees of \$30,676; room and board of about \$11,126 (assuming the student lived on campus in a double room); books and supplies of about \$1,050; and various other costs and allowances that come to roughly \$1,500.

<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	\$59,410	Dad's Salary
Gross Income/Taxable	\$57,410	
Untaxed Income	\$2,000	These numbers come straight off tax returns. Barnard assumes both natural parents will contribute to the educational expenses.
<b>TOTAL MANDATORY EXPENSES</b>	\$43,346	These expenses are subtracted from total income to determine available income
U.S. and State Income Tax plus F.I.C.A.	\$11,170	
Medical/Dental/Elementary and Secondary Tuition	\$0	
Employment Allowance	\$3,620	
Annual Education Savings	\$1,806	
Income Protection Allowance	\$27,350	An allowance for a family's basic living expenses. The amount varies based on the number of people in the household and the number of dependents in college. Generally, 30% of the income protection allowance is for food, 22% for housing, 9% for transportation expenses, 16% for clothing and personal care, 11% for medical care, and 12% for other family consumption. The allowance increases with parents' age on the assumption that you'll have a greater need to save for retirement.
<b>AVAILABLE INCOME</b>	\$15,464	
<b>CONTRIBUTION FROM INCOME</b>	\$3,460	<b>This is the first of two components of total parental contribution:</b> it represents the amount parents are expected to contribute to the cost of education based on a percentage—22% in this example—of income after mandatory expenses are subtracted. The contribution ranges from 5 to 6 % of parents' income. The figure here amounts to 5.8% of our students' parents income.



<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$124,980</b>	
Cash and Bank Accounts	\$2,500	
Home Equity (Value Minus Mortgage)	\$62,480	
Other Real Estate and Investments	\$10,000	This includes stocks, bonds, second homes, or other investments.
Adjusted Business and Farm Net Worth	\$0	
Assets in Siblings' Names	\$50,000	
Value of Trusts	\$0	

**TOTAL ALLOWANCES AGAINST ASSETS** \$62,079 These are subtracted from total assets to determine available assets, also called discretionary net worth.

Emergency Reserve Allowance	\$24,830	
Cumulative Education-Siblings	\$37,249	If there are other siblings in college, Barnard divides the parental contribution with the other institutions. If it's a private institution, the split might be even, while if it's a state or community college with lower fees, it might vary. In this example, the student's siblings are not in college.
Low Income Allowance	\$0	This individually calculated allowance compensates for special situations in which assets are not liquid, such as a house that may have appreciated dramatically. For example, while \$500,000 in home equity would normally translate into a contribution of about \$18,000 (3.7%), the financial aid office recognizes that a 'house-rich' family is not necessarily able to pay that much toward college expenses.

**DISCRETIONARY NET WORTH**  
(Total Assets Minus Allowances) \$62,901

**CONTRIBUTION FROM ASSETS** \$2,330 **This is the second component of parental contribution:** the amount parents are expected to pay toward their daughter's education based on their assets, after allowances are subtracted. The contribution ranges between 3% to 4% of assets; in this case, it came to 3.7%.

## THE PACKAGE

**TOTAL COST OF ATTENDANCE** \$44,352

Parents' Contribution (from assets and income)	\$5,790	Barnard works with parents to make sure they can meet their contribution. If the family has a hardship, such as having an elderly parent in a nursing home, financing options are suggested.
Student contribution from summer job	\$1,800	If the daughter spends her summer touring Europe or doing an unpaid internship, this amount must then be made up from other sources.
Student contribution from assets	\$350	If the student has assets, Financial Aid assumes that 35% a year is available for use during college. But if a parent has money in a tax-advantaged 529 college savings plan, for example, the school usually takes only 3% to 4% of the student's assets.
Other	\$0	If the student obtains a grant from another source, we reduce the amount of her loan, not her Barnard grant.

**TOTAL FAMILY CONTRIBUTION** **\$7,940** What you will pay is determined by adding the parental contribution from income and from assets, plus the student's contribution from her job and her assets.

**TOTAL NEED** \$36,412

**TOTAL SELF HELP** \$5,500

Loan	\$3,500	Need-based self-help aid (loans and jobs) averages \$3,633 with a maximum of \$13,166.
Job	\$2,000	

**TOTAL GRANT** **\$30,912**

[39% of students receive a grant directly from Barnard. The average grant is \$24,738, including federal grants, state grants, outside aid, and Barnard grants.]



# Class Notes

In order to accommodate as much news as possible, classes with no news will not be listed in every issue.

**33 Frances Wiener Krasnow**, who wed Bernard Krasnow (CC '32) in 1934, recently moved from Sarasota, Fla., to Tampa to be closer to her daughter Ellie. She stayed in Sarasota for several years after her husband passed away in 2000, but health considerations necessitated the move. Her other daughter, Kathy, lives in Santa Monica, Calif., as do her two grandsons, Michael and Brian. Frances reads nearly a book a day and is partial to biographies and novels. She's proud that so many excellent writers are alumnae. She'd love to hear from you. Please call Alumnae Affairs at 212-854-2005 for her contact information.

**34 Carolyn Potter Hampton's** daughter Barbara writes that Carolyn died on Jan. 31, after a 15-year struggle with Alzheimer's disease. She and her late sisters, Mary and Marjorie, donated their brains to Columbia University's Taub Institute, which is actively investigating the causes and symptoms of, and treatments for Alzheimer's. A music major, Carolyn played the double bass,

piano, and organ. She played classical and modern bass with Phil Spitalny's Hour of Charm Orchestra and on the road with Count Berni Vici. She formed a nightclub band, the Feminine Notes, with three other women. She also brought music to the Jewish and Protestant worship services at the New York City orphans' asylum. As a stay-at-home mom, she taught piano and was pianist and organist for churches and community events. When World War II broke out, Carolyn worked with the design team for the arresting tailhook on the Hellcat fighter plane, which allowed pilots to land the planes on the very short runways of an aircraft carrier.

Despite the ravages of Alzheimer's, she continued to enjoy music. Her husband, Robert, predeceased her. She is survived by two brothers, one son, one daughter, and five grandchildren. Her daughter notes, "Barnard was an important part of her life."

Jane Stein Aberlin  
The Atrium  
640 Ocean Ave., Apt. 306  
Portland, ME 04103  
207-761-2102

**35 Geraldine Trotta** died Sept. 6, 2005, at her New York home. As an author and editor, she packed her 90 years full of adventure, travel, and food and shared them with the world in many publications. An editor at *Harper's Bazaar* and a longtime *Gourmet* correspondent, she was a million-mile traveler, many of them with her former husband, photographer Mark Shaw. Geri authored three novels and was full of zest and opinions. She was honored by her friends at a memorial service on Nov. 16, 2005, at the Four Seasons restaurant in New York.

**Jean Jacobson Strong's** daughter Madge reports that Jean died on Oct. 30, 2005, at 90. Jean and her husband, Winston, lived for 63 years in Fresno, Calif., where he was a professor at California State University and an irrigation specialist. After Winston's death in 1999, Jean moved to Ukiah, Calif., to be near Madge. Jean is survived by four children, nine grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

**Mary Goodson Lih**, of Richland, Wash., tells us her husband, Bjorn, passed away in April 2005. She still lives in their home with her son. Her daughter lives nearby and reads *Barnard* to her. Mary enjoys audio books since her eyes have gotten bad.

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70TH REUNION: JUNE 8-JUNE 11, 2006

**36** Our 70th Reunion is June 8 through June 11. Our Reunion Chairman and Vice President, **Sonya Turitz Schopick**, has planned an interesting program. She writes, "The Reunion Awards Committee will bestow a special award to the Class of 1936, acknowledging our years of service and activism, at the luncheon on Friday." We hope you'll come.

**Helen May Strauss** writes, "It was a 'party' year for me, because my 90th birthday was celebrated four times." In addition to seeing patients and supervising students, Helen's "working on a survey of women who joined the Navy in World War II and afterward. I hope to finish writing up the analysis of the results soon (a foot-slogging job,

For classes without  
correspondents, send notes to  
Deborah M. Staab  
*Barnard* magazine  
Vagelos Alumnae Center  
Barnard College  
3009 Broadway  
New York, NY 10027-6598  
E-mail: classnotes@barnard.edu



but not uninteresting)." Helen notes that she's "enjoying **Nora Lourie Percival's** book. She has a style I like very much, and meaty events of her life—fascinating reading." Thanks for the kind words.

**Margaret Davidson Barnett** still attends concerts and is involved in the Connecticut Alliance for Music. She writes that she "put up a young female violinist for the Heide Hermann competition. That was fun." Margaret is now on e-mail, although "not too assuredly."

Although **Anne Johnston Sessa** is well and enjoying life, she can't make the trip to New York. "Here's hoping you have a good reunion," she writes.

**Marcy Dolgenas Shapiro:** "I am looking forward to my 70th Reunion. I still see and hear from some of my classmates, like **Florence Ribakove Bar-Ilan** from Israel."

**Florence Alonso's** mesquite pod ranch is in its fifth year. "It is delightful to sit under the draping tree branches picking up the pods."

**Helen Lautz Weinrich's** daughter writes to let us know that her mother is now in a nursing home.

Claudia Livingston writes that her mother, **Sylvia Shimberg Reay**, is in an assisted-living facility after a stroke some years ago and a fall last year, which resulted in hip repair. Sylvia is doing well, but won't be able to attend reunion. "She did so much enjoy the last one she attended." Friends may contact Alumnae Affairs (212-854-2005) for Sylvia's new address.

A phone call from Muffy Siegel reported the death of her mother, **Estelle Abrams Siegel**, in October. Our condolences to Estelle's family.

Nora Lourie Percival  
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Vilas, NC 28692  
828-297-2828

noralp@alum.barnard.edu

**38 Ann Cottrell Free**, who died last year, was an avid supporter of animal

## ALUMNA PROFILE: CLAIRE MILLER EINHORN '39 Peace Now!

**A**sk Claire Miller Einhorn '39 why she's pulling together antiwar demonstrations at this point in her life, and you'll get a very reasonable answer. "It's something I have to do, I'm just being me," says the 87-year-old Middletown, N.Y., resident. Recently, Einhorn helped form a local Orange-Ulster County chapter of the Ragin' Grannies, a group of seniors who protest the U.S. war in Iraq by doing such things as visiting a local armed forces recruiting station dressed in aprons and bonnets, bearing baskets of cookies, and asking to register. Einhorn and her fellow grannies held the first protest on November 16, 2005, and have participated in

several others since. "I don't approve of this war at all, and the actions by some groups I was in seem to be talking to the converted," she says. "I read about the grannies in *The New York Times* and decided to do it." The Orange grannies number roughly nine women.

Fighting for ideas she believes in, being aware of injustice, recognizing the need for and the possibility of change in the world have always been part of Einhorn's being. A self-described "old liberal, from way back," Einhorn grew up during the Depression with a socially progressive father and a mother who, while not politically active, acted out of kindness to help people. "I saw suffering. I didn't experience it myself, but I was aware of it," she says. Her mother fed people at a time when there wasn't food, and her father read Voltaire and other revolutionary thinkers. "He was generally critical of what was going on," Einhorn remembers.

The student body at Barnard was somewhat less progressive and liberal than she'd expected. During the 1936 presidential election, she says, "the talk in the dorms was that Alfred Landon would win in a landslide against FDR, but of course, FDR licked him like crazy." Still, Barnard provided the opportunity to attend one meeting of the communist student group, and her first political demonstration. College was followed with 20 years of child rearing. Then the '60s brought the Vietnam War and the prospect of two of her three sons being drafted. She did whatever was necessary to avoid this, even provoking an asthma attack in one son for a six-month draft extension.

Her latest action, then, comes quite naturally. Einhorn devotes nearly 10 hours a week to planning meetings, making phone calls to find more supporters, and drafting antiwar slogans for posters. Her favorite: "How Many Lives Per Gallon?" Regarding the dearth of young people in the antiwar movement, Einhorn comments, "Maybe there is some wisdom in age. And freedom to be yourself. I have no one else to please. My husband's dead, my children are grown, my family doesn't live nearby except one. My attitude is, I'm a pessimist about our future, but I think we have to go down with honor, and I have to do what's within me. I serve a function, we all serve a function."

—Dimitra Kessenides



"I don't think many of us sit around making cookies," Claire Einhorn says of the Grannies.

rights as well as a journalist. Her daughter, Elissa, writes that the National Press Club has honored Ann with the new Ann Cottrell Free

Animal Reporting Award for excellence in reporting about animals. The press release points out that Ann was a pioneering journalist and writer and is

credited with spurring the first animal protection legislation. Elissa comments that Ann would have been very pleased with this award in her name.

**Mary Jacoby Brown** reports that she survived Hurricane Wilma, although her home in Coral Gables, Fla., was without electricity for a long period. Mary writes that she's recovering from a broken hip, and we hope that she has fully recovered by the time this issue goes out. On a happier note, she has renewed her license as a professional registered parliamentarian and has been busy with meetings.

**Maxine Meyer Greene** was on a panel entitled "How Art Facilitates Freedom," held on Jan. 14 at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, under the sponsorship of that museum, *The New York Times*, and the New-York Historical Society. She was one of six panelists and is listed as "philosopher and educator." This panel was the first part of a two-part program in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

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65TH REUNION: JUNE 8-JUNE 11, 2006

**41 Adeline Bostelmann Higgins**, in Sebastian, Fla., plans to be at reunion. **Helen Ranney** in LaJolla, Calif., is sorry that she won't be.

**Victoria Hughes Reiss** plans to attend. She had a wonderful family mini-reunion in New York last summer and attended the musical *Spamalot*. David Hyde Pierce, one of the stars of TV's *Frasier*, is Vicki's great-nephew. He was starring in *Spamalot* at the time and even surprised his family with his skills as a song-and-dance man. David has another Barnard connection: His niece is Laura Morgan Efird '94.

**Doris Prochaska Bryan** reports that her husband, John, suffered a silent heart attack during an Elderhostel program on opera in New York last year. Following surgery and other complications, he has recovered and they're again enjoying life.

The Arts Fund of Santa Barbara honored **Marjorie Ullman Hawksworth** for her poetry at the 17th Annual Individual Artist Awards last December. She was invited to read from her work in January and sends greetings to all for reunion.

Last year, Connecticut Governor M. Jodi Rell proclaimed May 18 to be Alice V. Meyer Day, on the occasion of **Alice Kliemand Meyer's** resignation, after 12 years, from the state Board of Governors for Higher Education. Alice also served 17 years as state representative from her district; she was honored with an annual scholarship in her name to send outstanding students to Washington, D.C., to learn about the federal government. We're proud of Alice. Last summer she and her husband, Ted, took a three-week tour of the western National Parks.

**Athena Capraro Warren's** son,

Mario Cohn-Haft, and his wife, Rita, were able to leave their work for the Brazilian government as ornithologist and biologist, respectively, to spend the Christmas holidays with Athena. Athena is doing very well since the serious accident she had in 2003. She plans to attend reunion.

Dr. **Estelle De Vito** decided to retire last year. She may be the last of our class to take that big step. Is there someone else who has yet to retire?

The Barnard Phonathan reminded us that we're building a class gift for reunion that reflects all that Barnard has meant to us. As I gather class news and learn of the attainments, large and small, I sometimes think of a sentiment of Dean Virginia Gildersleeve, of which Alice Meyer reminds us: "You girls are so fortunate to receive a college education [it wasn't so common in the 1930s] and you should use that education to serve your community."

I've added a knee replacement to my two new hips, but my husband, Milton, and I plan to attend reunion.

We regret to report that **Greta Eisenmenger Neelsen** died on April 8, 2005, in Aptos, Calif. She had been active and kept us aware of her adventures, including her one effort at skydiving a few years ago. She enjoyed writing for small magazines.

Also, we're sorry to learn of the death of **Alice Peterson Shamsey** on Aug. 9, 2005, in Sarasota, Fla., where her son, a pediatrician, lives.

—JRM

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**40 Florence Kotzian Strateman** died on May 1, 2005. She is survived by two daughters, one son, and three grandchildren, including Linda Strateman '06. **Margaretta Grevatt Doty** passed away on Oct. 17, 2005. She is survived by one son, one granddaughter, and one sister, **Georgianna Grevatt Zimm**. We send our deepest sympathy to both families. To Georgie Zimm we send special condolences, for she lost her sister and her husband, Bruno, within a month.

**Caroline Duncombe Pelz** and her husband, Ed, are spending their time at the Fillmore Pond retirement community in Bennington, Vt., which is closer to their doctors. It helps, writes Ed, in dealing with Caroline's hip, which she broke in June 2005.

**42 Enid Pugh Beecham** writes from Cardiff, Wales, that she was hospitalized for two months following a



stroke in May 2005. She has had to face the fact that her recovery hasn't been as fast as she had hoped. Enid and her husband usually take an interesting vacation each summer, but she was not up to it last year. Her sister, Nansi Pugh '40, who lives in Liverpool, England, has been a big help. Enid writes that she's planning to attend our reunion in 2007. Nansi went to her 65th last year; Enid hopes that she can make a similar trip. She remembers our 60th Reunion and the classmates she visited with. Her younger sister, who didn't go to Barnard, lives in New Haven, Conn.—a double reason to plan a transatlantic vacation in 2007.

Most of our snowbirds wintered in Florida. **Barbara Heinzen Colby** visited friends in Boca Raton. **Mabel Schubert Foust** reported that her apartment complex in central Florida was damaged by Hurricane Wilma and still is not completely repaired. **Doris Bayer Coster** and **Flora Bridges Harper** headed for Costa Rica. **Frances Murphy Duncan** is very happy at the life-care complex in Columbus, Ga., to which she recently moved. However, she had a traumatic experience when she was robbed in a parking lot. She was not injured, but she lost her cash and had to cancel all her credit and identification cards. She warns us not to carry too much cash or unnecessary credit cards and not to leave a handbag visible in a car.

**Charlotte Gordon Kirschner** died on Nov. 25, 2005. She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Paul, their three children, and four grandchildren. Charlotte was a sociology major and later obtained a master's in social work. She worked for many years as a geriatric social worker. When she retired, Charlotte volunteered as an intake clinician for a gay men's health clinic in Westchester County. She helped many families and people in crises. Both she and her husband were

very proud of their children and enjoyed their grandchildren. We extend our condolences to her family.

—VRC

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**43** **Laura Ponticorvo**, who sends e-mails filled with laughs, is doing well.

The Coast Guard held a burial at sea of the combined ashes of **Helen Sheffield Aronstam** and her husband, Elmore, on their anniversary, June 26, 2005. Her life reflects the experiences of many students during World War II. She met Elmore in college; they married; and they traveled as required by his position as a member of the U.S. Army Medical Corps. On his retirement, they settled in the Los Angeles area. After a stint as medical illustrator, Helen began teaching. In retirement she devoted many years to community activities. She'll be missed.

Thank you to all who have contributed to The Barnard Fund in 2006.

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**44** At this writing I'm back in Virginia, after seeing the sights of Sarasota, Fla., courtesy of **Idris Rossell**. She's busy and well following surgery and is in assiduous compliance with an exacting exercise and physical-therapy regime. We attended a Catholic Charities Ball, where she won the 50-50 drawing; I danced a lively foxtrot; and we both learned the basics of blackjack, alas, with fake money. Idris' coterie of friends includes two sisters from Trenton, N.J., one of whom had worked at an engineering plant with

my husband and lived a few blocks from our home. Another is Dorothy Morgan '40, a longtime Sunshine State resident who shares her home with two Maltese dogs, Baby Doll and Little Girl. Dorothy enjoyed a long career as a special education teacher. In September, Idris took a train north to visit in Berkeley Springs, W.Va., and Philadelphia, saving 1,500 miles of driving. In Rochester, N.Y., she boarded a ferry for Toronto to see her brother, saving more driving.

The distance from Sarasota to Fort Lauderdale discouraged Idris and me from driving down to see **Mary Davis Williams** at her historic waterside home in Ft. Lauderdale, so we telephoned. Her son had hauled his boat out of the water to shelter it near the house as Hurricane Wilma approached, only to have it buried subsequently under two uprooted trees.

**Jacqueline Levy Gottlieb** and her husband, Gene, traveled from Sedona, Ariz., to attend the dog show at Madison Square Garden in New York, where their daughter, Cindy, judged the terrier group, as shown on TV. Jacqueline still breeds and shows her terriers. Despite eye problems, Gene is still editing "using the latest magnifying and tech equipment."

"Two lifetime dreams fulfilled: Venice last year, the Grand Canyon this fall (with Sedona alongside, another wonderful experience in itself)," writes **Elizabeth Yoerg**

**Schumacher** from Dallas. She experiences joint and muscle pain, but "miracle drugs" keep it under control.

**Edna Ely Little**, who attended her 65th high school reunion in Connecticut, writes that her husband, Russ, finds medical advances helpful, but, Edna says, health conditions are "a daily challenge."

The death of **Jane Nestler Diaz** led **Françoise Kelz** to reminisce about their friendship, which started when the two botany majors shared vacations and classes extracting

embryos from corn grains and preparing slides from them. "We felt like real scientists—and had a wonderful time at it!" Many a day they turned their faces to the wind on the Nestlers' sailboat as it skimmed Long Island Sound. "Jane was a good sailor." Françoise always knew when Jane was in the vicinity—her huaraches creaked. When both women were taking graduate courses at Columbia University, Jane overheard two staff members discussing their search for a lab assistant for a botany course starting soon. "Jane quickly phoned me," says Françoise, "and told me to make a call pronto, which I did. I went for the interview and got the job. I stayed there for 19 years! That was the beginning of my 42-year career of teaching some aspect of biology." Françoise attended Jane's wedding to Richard, a Naval officer and Korean War veteran. Years later in Hinesville, Ga., the Diazes had a sailboat large enough to sleep several and cruise in the Caribbean. Jane's world revolved around her home, family, and friends. She and Richard raised two children, had a gracious home, and served their country and community well.

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**45** What are the odds of the following story coming from our class?

Two bright girls from different parts of the metropolitan area graduated from Barnard in 1945. They knew each other but weren't buddies. Soon after graduation **Hope Simon Miller** wedded Dr. Arthur Miller and **Betty Booth Smith** married Malcolm Smith, and both couples lived in Manhattan. The Millers had a son named Lloyd; the Smiths had a son named Eric. Lloyd and Eric each went to law school and then migrated to Anchorage, Alaska, but they didn't know each other until they finally met in Anchorage legal circles. Eighteen years ago, Lloyd was a guest at Eric Smith's wedding in the 49th state. Lloyd was married 10 years ago and Eric was a guest at his wedding. Now Eric Smith is a judge in the Alaska state court system and Lloyd Miller is a prominent attorney in Anchorage who argued a case successfully before the U.S. Supreme Court. The bond continues. Both Hope and Betty's granddaughters attend the same grammar school in Anchorage. Will these girls come full circle and attend Barnard?

When we had our 60th Reunion we received a very generous gift from the family of the late **Betty Sachs Adenbaum**. The Adenbaums remember how much Barnard meant to Betty, and we'll never forget how much Betty meant to each of us.

**Elaine Engelson Schlanger**, of Sarasota, Fla., writes that she and her husband of 62 years crossed the Atlantic on the *Queen Mary 2*.

**Sallie Good Von Mechow** and her husband, Henry, traveled to Antarctica. They live near their children in Hamilton, N.Y., where Hank teaches social dance at Colgate.

Those of you who've been attending our reunions and mini-reunions in the past 10 years will remember the husband of our Co-President **Avra Kessler Mark**, Dr. Herbert Mark, who passed away on Jan. 5. Herb was a gentle man who loved Columbia, medicine, music, and, above all, his wife of 61 years. In 1995, when we spent a year planning our 50th Reunion, Herb stepped in and volunteered to chair the spouse committee, which brought so many of our classmates' husbands to campus—men who had been supporting the College for years and had never attended a reunion. Every reunion after that, big or small, Herb was their leader. We'll miss him. We offer our deepest sympathy to Avra and their sons.

We also report the death of John Henry Ludlum, a scholarly minister and the husband of **Noelle Atwood Ludlum**. He died in December 2005. They had been living in Virginia. Our condolences to the Ludlum family.

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60TH REUNION: JUNE 8-JUNE 11, 2006

**46** Joy Drew Blazey writes, "We shall all miss **Susan Weaver**, our recently deceased class correspondent. She was indefatigable in her responsibility to her classmates and to the College for more years than I can recall. My husband and I visited Susan a few years ago in her little Vermont village and were greeted with warm hospitality and genuine friendship, causing us to stay for several days. She showed us all the sights, even Ben & Jerry's original ice cream establishment. One could hardly find a seat in her living room, for one of her loves was reading. Her religion was a passionate solace for her, so I know she is well taken care of now. Our class shall miss her dedication and

## MOVING?

Send name, telephone, address, and e-mail address changes and updated employment information to

Alumnae Records  
Barnard College, Box AS  
3009 Broadway  
New York, NY 10027-6598  
Fax: 212-854-0044

You can also submit the updates online at [www.barnard.edu/alum](http://www.barnard.edu/alum) by clicking on "Keeping in Touch" and "Alumnae Online Records Form."



professionalism in keeping classmates well informed of class news.”

**47** **Jean Connors Caldwell**, who was mentioned briefly in our last column, sent more information. For her first three years at Barnard she commuted but spent senior year in a dorm. Jean started as premed but switched to philosophy. Her working life of 30 years was spent as the western Massachusetts correspondent to the *Boston Globe*. Since September 2004, she’s been a volunteer educational advocate for foreign-born children in Springfield, Mass., and has tutored children whose first language is Albanian, Arabic, Chinese, Korean, or Spanish. Her advocacy for 90 Somali children who are being poorly served by the strained Springfield school system is important to her. An article in the Dec. 28 *New York Times* described the problem and noted that Jean and others had repeatedly requested that the Somali children be clustered in a few schools but the request was refused because it would result in lower school scores. Jean has filed a complaint with the Federal Office for Civil Rights.

**Rhoda Levine Cohen** writes from Jerusalem, “Jack and I continue to enjoy living in a comfortable and pleasant senior residence, near our children and grandchildren—at least near most of them.” She’s active in the Israel Association of University Women and the Jerusalem Genealogical chapter, and just celebrated her 60th wedding anniversary.

**Winifred Barr Rothenberg** writes from Waban, Mass., “With deep gratitude to my university [Tufts], I am delighted to say that I am still teaching at age 80, ‘American Economic Development’ and ‘The Economics of the British Industrial Revolution.’ In a world of so much pain it seems a sin to count one’s blessings. But I do, every moment of my life: my husband, our three children,

and our two grandchildren.”

**Joyce Dill McRae**, of Stroudsburg, Pa., writes, “After living 20 years in a very rural area, I’m living in a condo at a 55+ complex and enjoying it very much. I’m close to a university, which sponsors The Older Adult Learning Center, which runs many interesting programs.” She volunteers at a library and travels a bit.

**Gloria Kreisch Reynolds** of Pasadena writes, “I celebrated the United Nations 60th anniversary by placing a memorial message in honor of Dean Virginia Gildersleeve in the Commemorative Journal of the Pasadena, Calif., AN-AUSA chapter. She was the only woman appointed by FDR to the U.S. Delegation that established the United Nations. Dean Gildersleeve worked tirelessly to open Columbia University graduate schools to Barnard women and was an inspiration for us all.”

The family of **Condict Freeman Hyde** informs us that Condict died on Sept. 4, 2005, at her New Jersey home, surrounded by her children. “She leaves a strong legacy as an artist, a role model, a friend, and a mother.” We offer our sympathies to her family and to the families of **Susan Kleinert Murphy**, who died on March 7, 2005, and of **Stephanie Benet Mahin**, who died on Aug. 19, 2005. We extend condolences to **Marie Beltram McIlvennan**, who sends the sad news that her daughter Josie was killed in a car accident in January. Josie was 44 and a nurse in the ICU of a Boulder hospital and hospice. She is survived by Marie and three brothers.

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**48** We’ve reported on many 50th anniversaries over the past few years. Here’s another: The 50th anniversary of Play-Doh—the modeling clay-like

toy that our kids and grandkids grew up playing with. In case you didn’t know, Play-Doh was invented by **Kathryn Schwindt Zufall** when she was a nursery school teacher in Dover, N.J. She adapted it from wall-paper cleaner, adding the familiar almond scent and various colors. Kay’s brother-in-law launched the marketing and sales efforts, which eventually made millions, but somehow the Zufalls never made any money from the product. Kay enjoyed a Play-Doh “cake” celebrating the 50th anniversary and was pictured in the *Newark Star Ledger* and other publications. In real time, Kay and her husband, Bob, a retired urologist, run a community clinic providing health care to the poor. The Zufall family boasts four generations of Barnard women: Kay’s mother-in-law, Gertrude Bunker Zufall ’19; Kay herself; Kay’s daughter, Dr. Kathryn Zufall-Larson ’71; and Kay’s granddaughter, Amy Zufall Stetten ’09. If any of you can top this record, let us know. Other Zufall children include an engineer, a clinical psychologist, and a violinist. We wish we had space to report on the other grandkids!

**Alibeth Howell** had a long career as a librarian at the East Orange, N.J., public library and then at Bloomfield College. After retirement she volunteered at the Montclair Museum and the Newark Museum Library, and was active in peace causes. She’s proud of winning the Person of the Year Award from the mental-illness awareness organization SANE, in 1988. “I learned my activism at Barnard,” she writes. She now supports the Greens. She has traveled extensively, most recently to Prague, her favorite city in Europe. Despite needing a cane these days, she’s determined to survive.

**Ragnhild (Anne) Dahl Kinsey** reports that she was ready to take out her skis during the brief Norway daylight (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) outside her Oslo home. A traveler, Anne took a

Danube River cruise from the Black Sea to Vienna last fall and an early 2006 Mediterranean cruise.

**Elsie Koerner Youtcheff-Rayl** and her new husband, George, visited Elsie's daughter, Heidi, Heidi's husband, and their four children, who live in Kinming, China. Heidi served as tour guide during their travels, highlighted by a Yangtze River cruise.

**Gwenda Hardin Ross** writes: "I have six great-grandchildren. It amazes me. Now I am the oldest family member. That's scary. In addition to oils and pastels, I am now doing sculpture. I have done four bronzes."

**Mollie Allensworth Combes**, M.D., writes: "So glad to be alive in Santa Barbara and Dallas. I seem to have brittle bones but I heal well."

Our condolences to **Elizabeth Zlotsky Tovian** on the loss of her husband, Matt, in January 2005, and then on the loss of her son, Bill, last October. Betty has moved into an independent-living apartment facility just a mile from her former home in West Hartford, Conn., and near her daughter and her family. She's active in the Farmington Valley Chorale.

Our New York area get-together connected **Lois Williams Emma**, **Elinor Cahill Georgopulo**, **Liz Eastman Gross**, **Nancy Ackerson Kowalchuk**, **Adele Kostellow Morrill**, **Nora Robell**, **Nora Ravsky Schwartz**, **Fran Dowd Smith**, and me. We urge those in other regions to coordinate similar get-togethers. If you do, tell us about them.

Sadly, **Laura Adams Eastman** passed away on Sept. 23, 2005. She had been a rare-book appraiser. Our condolences to her companion, Mary Diehl, and to several nieces, including Anne Adams Bross '60.

We also note the passing of **Eileen Evers Carlson** on Dec. 11, 2005. She was retired chief legal counsel for the Securities & Exchange Commission, the Legal Aid Society of New York, and also served as CEO of

the Arthur J. Evers Corporation. She was active in the Circumnavigators Club and was a member of Our Lady of Joy Catholic Church in Carefree, Ariz. Her husband, Robert, died earlier last year. Our condolences to her friends and colleagues.

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**49 Victoria Boothby Ross** now lives in Yonkers. Having spent half of her life in Manhattan, she considers her present location an exile, but high rents have driven her away from the city. The theater is still her passion.

The Spring 2005 issue of *Barnard* contains a mention of **Patricia Plummer Cornell**'s unfortunate fall in January of that year. She experienced another fall while living at a rehabilitation center and wasn't able to return to her home in Bloomfield, Conn., until December 2005. Best wishes on your recovery, Patricia.

**Alma Schuhmacher Rehkamp** and her husband, George, celebrated their 50th anniversary in November 2005. The occasion brought together the entire family, including their three daughters and their families. Later that month, Alma had a knee-replacement operation. When I spoke to her in February, she was still experiencing much pain, but was looking forward to the benefits from this operation.

I'm sorry to report the deaths of two classmates. **Janet Mora** died on Aug. 24, 2005. She is survived by several cousins. **Jean Neely** died on Sept. 5, 2005, and is survived by two brothers, nieces, and nephews. Our condolences to both families.

**Marilyn Heggie De Lallo** and **Helen McLaughlin** visited South America in February. Helen went to Peru and Machu Picchu, then joined Marilyn on the flight to Santiago, Chile. Their adventure also included Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay. Despite two hip replacements, Marilyn

travels extensively; is a docent at Coe Hall, the Museum of Planting Fields; is active at the Princeton/Columbia Club of New York; and sings in her church choir. Marilyn has two sons and one daughter, all married, and she has four grandchildren. Manhattanite Helen spends many weekends and the summer at her condo in Spring Lake, N.J. She's also active in the Princeton/Columbia Club.

—YDD

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**50 Sylvia Mendez Ventura** writes regarding President Judith Shapiro's letter, "Barnard's Mob of Scribbling Women," in the Summer 2005 issue: "I belong to that mob, although I am not American ... and I live in the Philippines. I've written 15 books and numerous articles for Filipino readers." Sylvia taught English literature and composition at the University of the Philippines and was appointed professor emeritus after her retirement. "I might as well confess that I'm 76 and have 12 grandchildren. My husband is 81. We endure our aches and pains together." The Venturas have two daughters in the United States, one son in Canada, and one daughter in the Philippines. "I still enjoy reading *Barnard*, although I feel sad every time I learn that a classmate has passed on."

**Ann Haft Kreizel**, who creates art in oil, pastel, pencil, and pen, took part in a student show at the 92nd Street YMCA in February and March.

**Harriet Costikyan**, a retiree in New York, spends her time writing proposals for nonprofit organizations.

Sadly, **Nancy Gullette Post** died



on Sept. 28, 2005. She is survived by four daughters and six grandchildren.

**Bernice Fiering Solomon** writes of the death of **Eleanor Peters Lubin's** husband, Lawrence. "Elly has been an active class member from Greek Games to our most recent mini- and major reunions. She and Larry were married soon after graduation. Despite Larry being seriously affected by polio in 1953, he and Elly were fully involved and active with family, friends, and community. For many years Larry commuted to work in Manhattan from their home in New Jersey and, after retiring, was involved in community affairs ... Their daughter and son, with spouses and grandchildren, live nearby. Larry was universally highly regarded for his ability, disposition, and resourcefulness in the face of his difficulties."

**Cecile Singer** sends this loving tribute: "We are deeply saddened to report that **Gail Gould** passed away on Jan. 19 after a short illness. Gail was a devoted, active alumna. She helped plan our reunions and semi-annual mini-reunions, and helped to keep class members connected to each other and to the College. For at least 35 years Gail participated in annual fund-raising Phonathons, always getting more pledges than anyone else. She was a major contributor to *50 Cooks*, the recipe book for our 30th Reunion. A longtime resident of Manhattan, Gail took full advantage of the city's cultural offerings, in particular the Metropolitan Opera. She had many friends among classmates and around the country. Gail was still working and had intended to do so indefinitely. She was executive assistant to the chairman of Boone and Co., an investor relations and public relations company. She started there in 1972. Gail was a fine human being. We remember her with affection and shall miss her."

—NNJ

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55TH REUNION: JUNE 8-JUNE 11, 2006

**51 Lucille Gottlieb Porter** reports, "We welcomed our eighth grandchild, Everett Alexander Porter, born Sept. 11, 2005. Very exciting! Looking forward to our 55th Reunion."

**Leah Krechewsky Indelman** writes: "I have been a playwright for children since the Pied Piper Festival at Barnard in 1950. Throughout the ensuing years, I have presented plays for the Parks Department and the school system of New York City. Hopefully, I can harvest them in a book for children to use. Sarah Rachel Muehlbauer, my granddaughter, has already applied to Barnard for this year, September 2006. She is a high school senior and adores Barnard. Her brother is at Columbia."

Stanley F. Reed writes that his wife, **Harriet Dyer Reed**, passed away on April 25, 2005. Our sincere condolences go out to Harriet's family.

Patricia Gross, a friend of **Dorothy Wolfe Hall**, whose death was mentioned in the Fall 2005 issue, writes that Dorothy received her Ph.D. from Boston University Metropolitan College, where she lectured for 10 years. Dorothy's thesis, "Robert Frost, Contours of Belief," was published and there are plans to publish her book on spiritual journeys and the arts. She also taught at the Jesuit Institute of Boston at Boston College and the Cambridge Center for Adult Education. Students have said she was very important in their lives. After a brief marriage to Edward Judd, Dorothy remarried in 1967 to architect William Lyon Hall, who died in 1999.

I hope to see you all at reunion.  
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**52** On Feb. 13, one day after New York City's record-breaking snowstorm, **Dion Alden Holt, Carol Conners Krikun, Marietta Dunston Moskin, Ruth Ryskind Ohman,** and **Marilyn Rich Rosenblatt** attended a Project Continuum-sponsored tea and talk about transitions. The speaker was **Elizabeth (Bettina) Blake**. Afterward all of our classmates except Dion went on to dinner at Le Monde.

Now retired after more than 20 years of teaching, **Betty Greene Mazur** is pursuing a myriad of interests. She's very involved in her local Democratic Party and is a volunteer advocate for battered women, an activity she says she finds "very, very satisfying." She's also active in the peace movement and has taken bus trips to Washington, D.C., to promote this cause. Betty is also an avid bird-watcher and enjoys sailing. When I caught up with her, she'd just returned from the Caribbean, where she'd been sailing with three of her four children.

After 15 years in North Carolina, **Joan Lunoe Martini** plans to move to her hometown of Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y. Long-term plans include buying a house with her son when he completes his bachelor's degree.

**Dorothy Wanamaker Mee** is deeply involved in musical activities. Besides being the organist and choir director at her church, she sings with the Westchester Choral Society. Dorothy also gives and takes piano lessons, and is taking voice lessons, too. Dorothy adds that she has eight grandchildren, whom she adores.

**Deborah Slotkin Horowitz** is the proud mother of three Barnard daughters: Naomi Horowitz Nadata '74, Rachel Horowitz-Kohn '75, and

Ruth Horowitz Veit '77. Deborah is a grandmother and a great-grandmother. Her great-grandson, Alexander, is the son of Naomi's daughter, Miri. Deborah is also the proud mother of two sons, Joseph and Avram. Needless to say, Deborah enjoys them all.

When I spoke to **Eva Stadler Brooks**, she had just returned from Europe. Eva's still a member of the English faculty at Fordham University, where she teaches film and comparative literature. She's on leave this spring so she can finish writing a book.

Speaking of books, **Francine Du Plessix Gray** was one of three finalists for the National Book Critics Circle awards for *Them: A Memoir of Parents*.

**Artemis Simopoulos Pinkerson**, M.D., organized a series of seminars on "The Omega-3 Revolution and Your Health" as part of the Smithsonian Resident Associate Program of the Smithsonian Center for Lifelong Learning. Artemis is president of the Center for Genetics, Nutrition and Health.

It's with great sadness that I report the deaths of **Gabrielle Saenger Bublitz** and **Elizabeth Heed McLane**. Also, I must report the death of **Harriet Newman Cohen's** husband, Arthur W. Feinberg, M.D., last November, following open-heart surgery. The class extends its condolences to the Bublitz, McLane, and Feinberg families.

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**53 Patricia Thall Hendel** of New London, Conn., was elected chair of the newly constituted Citizens Ethics Advisory Board, a nine-member board created after the recent state corruption scandals. Pat is a former three-term state representative who guided the first major ethics bill in the state through the House of Representatives. A commissioner of

the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women, Pat is also on the board of the Connecticut Early Music Society. Pat also travels often. She and her husband, Judge Seymour Hendel, traveled recently to the Caribbean, Russia, and Spain, and went skiing in Colorado with their grandchildren.

**Emeline Midgett Angevine** and her husband, Jay, live in the house in Tucson, Ariz., that they built in 1967. Jay retired as a professor emeritus from the University of Arizona College of Medicine. Midge has worked there in the preparation for clinical medicine department for 25 years.

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**54 Jeanine Parisier Plottel** and **Arlene Kelley Winer** represented our class at the Barnard Leadership Conference. Arlene conducted a session on reunion planning. Jeanine attended a session geared toward enhancing the position of Barnard in the world of higher education. Both found the weekend interesting and full of ideas to increase class spirit and solidarity. They'd like to hear your suggestions for mini-reunions. You can contact any of our class officers or the Alumnae Office (212-854-2005).

**Phyllis Henry Jordan** writes that she enjoys her grandchildren (seven boys and three girls), her piano, her garden, and her poetry writing and publishing. She still misses Bob and their 12 years in France and "will continue to write about our house, garden, and friends there."

I spoke to **Winifred Cotton Gaskell**, who's very busy in retirement. She teaches Sunday school, sorts books for her town library, and is trying to organize a church library. Winifred and I shared many classes together, as she was one of the few other math majors in our class. She loves gardening in her spare time.

**Erica (Ricky) Levy** volunteers as a tutor in fifth grade math. She's still into art, her community, and exercise. Her son Steven is an emergency-room pediatrician. Her other son, Mark, is dean of the Detroit Law School. Her daughter lives in the U.K.

**Charlotte Raup Cremin** and **Arlene Rosenberg Chambers** are active with the National Puzzlers League, which Charlotte calls "an association of slightly dotty people."

Sadly, in October 2005, **Freda Rosenthal Eiberson** lost her grandson, Danny. We extend our deepest sympathy to Freda and to Danny's parents. Freda keeps busy by taking classes and volunteering for Hadassah and her synagogue. She did take a Western European cruise this past summer and pronounced it "wonderful."

Sadly, **Judith West Sheldon** died in July of ovarian cancer. Our condolences to her husband, David.

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**55** Upcoming New York event: Thurs., June 8, 12 p.m., at the Asia Society. For reservations call **Jane Were-Bey Gardner** at 561-776-7111 or 917-612-4421, or e-mail her at myblueboat@aol.com.

Many thanks to **Hessy Levinsons Taft**, who conducted a tour of the Darwin exhibit at the American Museum of Natural History for our classmates on Jan. 25. Those who met for a great lunch-and-learn session with Hessy included **Barbara Kahn Gaba**, **Doris Joyner Bell Griffin** and her husband, Peter, **Barbara Silver Horowitz**, **Marion Toman Marchal**, **Duane Lloyd Patterson**, **Eva Isaak Rossman** and her friend, **Toni Lautman Simon**, **Carol Held Scharff**, **Mirella d'Ambrosio Servodidio**, **Renée Becker Swartz**, and **Diana**



## Touliatou Vagelos.

Congratulations to **Barbara Brody Heyman**, music historian, who has been awarded a \$40,000 grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Barbara received the grant to support research for her book, *A Comprehensive Thematic Catalog of the Complete Works of the American Composer Samuel Barber (1910–1981)*. Her award-winning biography, *Samuel Barber: The Composer and His Music* (Oxford University Press, 1994), was on exhibit at our 50th Reunion class book fair. It's a standard in music-history scholarship. Barbara has been pursuing her research full-time since January, much of it at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. Prior to that she was director of the Office of College Information and Publications at Brooklyn College. An accomplished pianist and violinist, Barbara was a music major at Barnard and earned a master's from Columbia and a Ph.D. from CUNY.

Kudos to **Dasha Amsterdam Epstein**, Broadway producer, who was honored at Barnard's 2006 Spring Party & Auction on May 8. Dasha won two Tony Awards for *Ain't Misbehavin'* and for *Children of a Lesser God* and two Drama Desk Awards, the Drama Critics Circle, and Outer Critics Awards for *Master Harold and the Boys*.

Our class president, Renée Becker Swartz, was appointed by President Bush as a delegate to the White House Conference on Aging in December 2005 in Washington, D.C. The agenda included a discussion of the aging process and changes in that process and to the time lines. Youth is now extended to 35, middle age to 65, and maturity to 80. Retirees often begin second careers using the expertise gleaned from their first careers. Renée became prominent for her work as chair of the New Jersey State Library Advisory Council and for her tenure on the board of the School of Communications, Information and Library Studies of Rutgers University.

It dates back to her formation of the Friends of the Monmouth County Library System, the springboard for which was her participation in the Barnard Club of Monmouth County, where she undertook a library survey on behalf of the club.

**Sylvia Simmons Prozan** and her husband, George Prozan, a cardiologist, join the golden-anniversary group in June. In March they took a 32-day cruise from Capetown, South Africa, to Dubai, U.A.E., to Rome, Italy, stopping at exotic ports along the way. On Nov. 26, 2005, they welcomed a new grandson, Marcel Jacob Pierre-Louis, born to their daughter Anne and her husband, Gilbert. Marcel joins Noah and Nicole, grandchildren born to Sylvia's son Larry and his wife, Linda.

Congratulations and good luck to our tireless officers for the next five years: Renée Becker Swartz, class president, Carol Held Scharff, vice president, and Barbara Kahn Gaba and Eva Isaak Rossman, our fund co-chairs. The former funding co-chair, **Florence Federman Mann**, resigned that post to work with the Barnard development office on a major new project, the details of which will be revealed in a later column.

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50TH REUNION: JUNE 8-JUNE 11, 2006

**56 Barbara Foley Wilson**, who lives in Bethesda, Md., writes that she retired in October 2004 and has been playing tennis, writing memoirs, and visiting Washington museums with her husband, Paul. In February 2005 the couple celebrated their 50th anniversary at the wedding of their daughter. **Louise Sadler Kiessling** was a guest at the wedding.

**Harlene Markowitz Weiss**, whose home is in York, Pa., writes that she and her husband live in Florida

from December to May and are interested in meeting classmates in the Sarasota area.

**Ruth Lanter Tyler** says her husband, Stan, has retired from his medical practice, and she has retired from financial consulting. They live in West Palm Beach, Fla., where they're enjoying golf, continuing-education classes and "much travel to foreign shores." They're planning a 50th anniversary cruise aboard the *Queen Mary 2* and then driving to the parts of Europe they've previously missed. They have three sons and four grandchildren.

**Ruth Young**, of South Dartmouth, Mass., sings with a choir that will be on tour in Ireland in June,

## BARNARD ONLINE COMMUNITY



### JOIN THE VIRTUAL REUNION

Stay in touch with classmates and other alumnae through the online community. Share your views and personal experiences with other alumnae, find long-lost classmates in the directory, advertise your business or service, and take advantage of Barnard's permanent e-mail forwarding by joining the alumnae online community. Just connect!

[www.barnard.edu/alum](http://www.barnard.edu/alum)

but she says she's planning to leave the group early to be back for reunion.

Speaking of reunion, June 8 is sneaking up on us. I plan to be there and look forward to putting faces to the names of those who have been good enough to send news. You should have received the brochure with information about our 50th Reunion. If you haven't, please call or e-mail Alumnae Affairs. Reservations are accepted up to the last minute, or you can register at the door. So don't stay away because of a late decision.

Also, be sure to check our class page at the Barnard Web site, [www.barnard.edu/alum/reunion](http://www.barnard.edu/alum/reunion). It lists the planned events as well as the names of those classmates with whom we'll be sharing the weekend.

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**57 Ann Lord Houseman** writes that she and her husband had a wonderful three-week Elderhostel trip to South Africa with visits to Botswana, Johannesburg, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, followed by Thanksgiving in Denver with their middle daughter and her family. "I retired as a public-school principal in 1991, and Evan retired from Dupont in 1993. We have enjoyed retired life and spending time with our five grandchildren. I have been a docent at the Delaware Art Museum for nine years, and a guide at the Nemours Mansion, home of Alfred I. duPont from 1910 to 1936. The mansion is on the site of the Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children, where I also volunteer as an auxiliary member." They have lived in a retirement community since 2003 and love not having to take care of a house. "My oldest daughter and my 13-year-old granddaughter (10 at the time) came with me to our 45th Reunion. They had a wonderful time exploring Barnard and we all took the

tour of historic Harlem. I'm looking forward to our 50th."

**Marilyn Melton Brooks** is busy at the Heard Museum and has "taken on a small project for Hadassah, and with family, that is plenty. Barnard alumnae have a book group, which keeps me from reading only who-dunits. This is a very nice group of people—bright and accomplished ladies all. In playing with a new bridge group I ran across a woman from my own class, **Dorothy Donnelly Meunier**. I had known her before, but this time we could talk and bond a bit. She spends part of the year in London and is also going East, where her husband has a short-term contract for a few months."

**Helen Horn** is "still living in low-cost government housing and involved in politics. A couple of years ago I had two poems published in a local publication and two watercolors in an exhibit in Alexandria, La. Not much, but better than could be expected."

According to **Phyllis Raphael**, the Great Writers at Barnard conference was a resounding success. "The memoir panel was full to overflowing. I was the moderator of the biography panel, along with Frances Landau Kiernan '66. Barbara Lovenheim '62 and Melissa Haley '89 were on the panel—also very well attended. I've been invited to read at Barnard when my memoir is published next year. Of course, I'm delighted."

**Ann Marie Farver Norton** and her husband, Lawrence, celebrated their 50th anniversary on Aug. 21, 2005, at a party given by their four daughters. Last April, Ann and Lawrence volunteered on medical teams to Kazakhstan and China.

**Carol Podell Vinson** reports, "I continue to practice psychotherapy out of my home and office and devote a great deal of time to vocal study and performance. Barbara Beadle Renfro '55 is my accompanist on the piano. We've performed together many times

and are always looking for new gigs."

**Laura Rosenbaum Randall's** *Factors Affecting Learning and Cost Effective Schooling in Latin America: Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Mexico* (Edwin Mellen Press) analyzes family, classroom, and school factors affecting students in those nations individually and as a group. Analyses of the impact of the color of the student in Brazil provides striking parallels and contrasts to the impact of color on student achievement in the United States. Successful policies for improving student achievement are identified for all students.

**Jane Smisor Bastien's** husband, James, passed away in December of complications from Alzheimer's disease. Pianists both, they met in 1961 over Prokofiev's "Seventh Sonata," were soon married and began performing as a duo. They wrote more than 300 books of piano repertory and technique, which sold in the millions and were translated into 15 languages. Our sympathy to Jane and her family.

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**58 Carol Schott Sterling** has relocated to Manhattan's Upper West Side. She was co-captain for the Outreach/Get the Word Out Committee for Barnard's 2006 Spring Party & Auction. Carol is also a freelance consultant in the arts and education. She writes that while watching the Winter Olympics, she caught Barnard's 2004 Woman of Achievement, Robin Wagner '80, in an interview on NBC. Carol recalled the ice-skating lesson with Robin that she won at last spring's auction/benefit. "Robin was a marvelous teacher. She taught me how to 'twirl' on the ice within 50 minutes—a minor miracle, since I had not



been on skates for 35 years," she writes.

**Anita Sharfstein Greenberg** writes, "I am enjoying retirement. In fact, I am so busy that I don't understand how I used to work 50 hours a week." Last year, Anita and her husband, Norman, traveled to Florida, the Dominican Republic, Italy, Mexico, and Portugal. Recently, they visited South America.

**Elaine Greenberg Erichson** and her husband spent a week in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., this winter and managed to include a "lovely, if brief, visit with **Betty Reeback Wachtel** and Jim Wachtel."

After her husband, Roy, passed away, **Sarah (Sandi) Dinkins Britton** sold her house and moved to Greenwich, Conn. She enjoys the small-city atmosphere, which offers many cultural activities that appeal to her—chamber concerts, a museum, an antique society, a foreign-affairs book study group at the library, and proximity to New York City. Sandi has been studying botanical watercolor painting for more than five years, and has started to paint portraits. In addition to pursuing her many interests, two sons, one granddaughter, three stepchildren, and seven step-grandchildren keep her quite busy.

**Anne Hendon Bernstein** and her husband, Richard, both practice medicine. She teaches psychiatry at the N.Y. Presbyterian Hospital in Westchester. Richard directs the peripheral vascular clinic of Jacobi Hospital, where his specialty is diabetes mellitus.

**Joan Ferrante** plans to retire in June, after 43 years of teaching comparative medieval literature at Columbia and, for more than a decade, women, religion and human rights. She says teaching Barnard and Columbia undergraduates has provided "the excitement that comes from intelligent and articulate responses."

Joan is putting together a database

of letters that reveal how involved medieval women were in political, intellectual, and religious life. Her other passions are listening to chamber music with her husband, Carey McIntosh, and playing with her two grandchildren "while they are still young enough to enjoy it."

**Ann Cohen Robbins** writes from Israel, "We now number almost 18 sitting around the Shabbat table. Our ninth grandchild is 3 months old already and, before long, will join us in eating voluminous amounts of spaghetti. We truly are blessed."

**Louise Winslow Windisch** says that coastal California "after 10 years here, never palls (except for fog)." Her three children and seven grandchildren live in Oregon, Texas, and Virginia. A pair of standard poodles keep Louise and her husband, Charles, "alert and amused."

We're sorry to report the passing of **Doriane Kurz** and **Sheila Barry Bausano**. We send our sincere condolences to their families.

—MSD

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**59 Regina Jerome Einstein** and her husband, Joe, have an apartment in Manhattan and a house in Westchester. Regina is a marketing research consultant and Joe is an attorney. They enjoy spending time with their three married children and nine grandchildren and traveling. They recently visited Iceland and South Africa.

In March **Gail Lee Bernstein** gave a reading to the Barnard-in-Tucson club from her book, *Isami's House: Three Centuries of a Japanese Family* (UC/Berkeley Press).

**60** Many of us who live in Cambridge, Mass., attended **Roberta Cohen's** Dec. 8, 2005, talk, "The Forgotten Refugees: Protecting People Uprooted in their Own Countries," which was part of the Voices of Public Intellectuals Lecture Series at Radcliffe. **Beulah (Berl) Mendelson Hartman, Martha Tolpin, Irene Winter, and I, Susan Goldhor**, were spellbound by Roberta's recital of the work that she and others have done over many years to bring internal refugees to the attention of the world, and to bring them aid. Although internal refugees often suffer more than those able to emigrate, they were ignored by the international community until recently because national sovereignty took precedence over human tragedy. It was fascinating for us to learn more about the details of Roberta's work, and the audience made clear how highly she is regarded by the international and intellectual communities. The answers she gave to widely varying questions showed her familiarity with the plight of internal refugees around the world.

Two classmates from the Pacific Northwest, who couldn't make it to reunion, wrote in. **Martha Ullman West**, of Portland, Ore., writes, "It has been a year of milestones, travel, and work. My daughter, Alice, turned 30. I've been to Copenhagen for the Bournonville Festival (June); Los Angeles before that, for the Dance Critics Association meetings; and to Argentina and Uruguay, embedded in a ballet company. Work, yes, but great fun, too." Martha's Copenhagen trip kept her from attending reunion, but we hope she can make the next one. And the same goes for our Seattle classmate, **Eva Dietzmann Mader**. After retiring from teaching languages three years ago, Eva is engaged in partnering Lutheran congregations from northwest Washington with Lutheran

congregations in European Russia, who are trying to rebuild after 70 years of persecution and destruction. Eva's coordination of these partnerships was undertaken at the request of the Lutheran Bishop of European Russia, and, given her history—surviving World War II in Germany and then fleeing East Germany when the Russians occupied it—plus her language skills and people skills, who could be better suited to the task?

On New Year's Day, **Harriet Perlstein Schick** buried her husband, Elliot. Although he had been ill, he was in recovery and doing better, so his death came as a shock. Harriet describes him as a wonderful man, kind, loving, and generous. Our condolences go to Harriet, who would enjoy seeing classmates in New York. You can obtain her contact information (and Judy Medoff's—see below) by checking the online directory ([www.barnard.edu/alum](http://www.barnard.edu/alum)) or by calling Alumnae Affairs (212-854-2005).

In our last column, three errors were accidentally introduced as it moved into print. First, **Judith Zuckerman Medoff** moved from St. Louis to Baltimore (not the other way around); found she missed St. Louis, and moved back. Second, **Erna Olafson** is not married, not a pastor, but is still on the faculty at the U. of Cincinnati College of Medicine and Cincinnati Children's Hospital. It's Erna's daughter Elizabeth and husband who have taken junior pastor positions in Tacoma, Wash. Lastly, the item on **Marianne Goldner Shapiro**'s death originally stated that we had Googled her and found a Web site listing that stated "Sex, Blackmail, Theft, Treachery, Murder and . . . Scholarship?" It was advertising her 2005 book, *Higher Learning*. Yes, Marianne published eight scholarly books during her life, but *Higher Learning* is a satirical murder mystery that skewers academe with a sharp pen. It received rave reviews and I

can't imagine a better way to honor her memory than for us all to buy and read copies of it, her last book.

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45TH REUNION: JUNE 8-JUNE 11, 2006

**61** In July 2005, **Vivian Finsmith Sobchack** retired as associate dean of the UCLA School of Theater, Film & Television. Her book, *Carnal Thoughts: Embodiment and Moving Image Culture*, was published last year by the University of California Press.

**Linda Leibowitz Schwarz** retired as director of the Office of Sponsored Projects at Northern Illinois University. Linda is now committed to traveling, spending more time with her grandchildren, and continuing her community activities. She's enjoying this new stage of life.

**Sylvie Alpert Bryant** retired from the United Nations after 29 years. Her last posting was with the U.N. drug control and crime prevention program. Since retiring she has been a volunteer at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, giving tours in French of museum highlights and in English of American painting.

**Sharon Bittenson Meltzer** will retire in May after teaching for 25 years in the city colleges of Chicago as a professor of English. She looks forward to having time for scholarly pursuits and more time for her children, grandchildren, and old friends from Barnard.

**Marilyn Umlas Wachtel** celebrated the second anniversary of the

Barnard Club of Northern New Jersey, to which she has devoted much energy. The club has been very well received. Marilyn would love to hear ideas about how to contact owners of second homes in vacation spots—especially the Berkshires, where she has her second home. You can look her up on the online directory, [www.barnard.edu/alum](http://www.barnard.edu/alum).

**Joan Sharp Feldman** enjoys her twin grandsons, Owen and Dylan Davies, the sons of her daughter Katherine. She also enjoys teaching art history part-time at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

**Eleanor Epstein Siegal** has retired from being a professional organizer and now enjoys traveling the world, playing bridge (she has achieved the rank of Bronze Life Master), and seeing her five grandchildren. In May she plans to spend a month in New York with her husband as part of her goal to enjoy Barnard's city at least once every two years.

This year's reunion theme, transitions, is especially apt for the activities of our classmates.

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**62** Our class had excellent representation at Leadership Council in November: **Nancy Kung Wong**, class president; **Angela Carracino DiDomenico**, vice-president and co-reunion chair (by phone); **Alice Finkelstein Alekman**, networking co-chair; **Roxanne Cohen Fischer**, reunion co-chair; **Libby Guth Fishman**, networking co-chair; **Rosalind Marshack Gordon**, treasurer; **Deborah Bersin Rubin**, networking co-chair; **Harriet Kaye Inselbuch**, fund co-chair; **Marsha**



**Wittenberg Lewin Latiner**, club liaison; **Rosalie Sacks Levine**, nominating committee chair; **Ruth Nemzoff**, fund co-chair; and your class correspondent.

While attending Council we discussed our 45th Reunion, to take place in summer 2007, which will be here before we know it. We want you to attend this fabulous event, so make a note of it now. Reunion information will be posted and updated on our class Web site.

**Barbara Greifer Kane** has permanently returned from London as of September 2005. "I am finding reentry not as much of a slam dunk as I had anticipated. Still, it's nice being in the same time zone as family."

**Joan Rezak Katz** and her husband, Henry, spent part of last summer walking in the mountains around St. Moritz, Switzerland. "We went with some other friends, married and widowed, and met others there who similarly were in various stages of married life or singledom. We savored the sharing and knowing that we can have fun with friends at different points in their lives and our own."

**Linda Rosenblum Persily** writes: "Benjamin Scott Persily, 7 lbs. 7 oz., was born on June 24 at 8:18 a.m. Ben, Sarah, and Marc are fine and the grandparents are ecstatic!"

**Harriet Schwarz Holtzman** writes: "After practicing law in the public sector for 20 years, I have retired from 32B-J Legal Services and opened my own office, together with one of my former colleagues. Holtzman Helfman, LLP opened on May 9 at 350 7th Ave., in New York City, a convenient four-block walk from home. I will continue to practice primarily matrimonial and family law, and have no interest in retirement any time soon. As for the family, in addition to my son Daniel's two children, Elliott, 5, and Phillip, 3, I have a new grandson, my daughter Vivian's son, Benjamin, just 5 months old. My hus-

band, Gary, is loving grandparenthood, and is busy passing on his considerable carpentry skills to the older grandsons, who are fast becoming able apprentices. Re: the gray-hair survey, I went gray early and never colored my hair. Why hide it? I worked hard for each and every one."

Sid Sirota writes: "It is with great sadness that I report the death of my beloved wife, **Anne Francese Sirota**, on Nov. 23, 2005. She died of pancreatic cancer at home in Winchester, Va., where we have been since March of 2004. Until December of 2002, Anne was a partner in a large law firm in Syracuse, N.Y., specializing in employee benefits. We were married 43 years. Surviving her are two daughters, Carol Flax, who along with her husband, Bruce, and my two grandsons, Josh and Daniel, reside in Winchester, and Gail Sirota and her husband, Leslie Stenull, of Sherman Oaks, Calif." The class expresses its condolences to Sid and his family.

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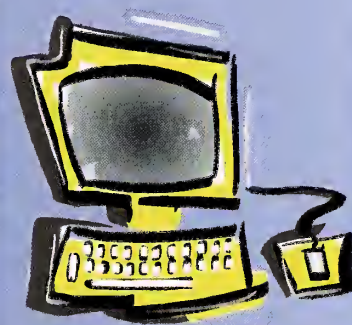
**63** Upcoming event: June 2 through 4, there will be a class trip to Montreal, where we'll visit museums, the old city, go shopping, have brunch at a private mansion, and more. For more information, please contact **Wendy Supovitz Reilly** at 212-561-1720 or [wsr784@hotmail.com](mailto:wsr784@hotmail.com); or **Shirley Sherak** at 212-964-7210, or [ssarch-pln@aol.com](mailto:ssarch-pln@aol.com).

**Anita Reetz** writes: "After reading the article "Redefining Retirement" (*Barnard*, Fall 2005), I wanted to share my story. Jim McGiffert, my husband, and I moved to Anacortes, Wash., on Puget Sound in August 2005. Jim retired from the radio station WINS four years ago, but we celebrated WINS' 40th year as an all-news radio station at a party in New York in

## STAY IN THE "BARNARD LOOP"

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To receive Barnard Bits & Bytes, visit [alum.barnard.edu/intouch](http://alum.barnard.edu/intouch), click on "Alumnae Records Online Form," and give us your current e-mail address. We'll keep you in the Barnard loop!



October and stayed with **Pola Auerbach Rosen** and her husband, Herman." In January Anita and Jim went on a two-month trip to Southeast Asia. "I have a tsunami-related grant from University of Southern California to write and teach an ESL program for medical students at Syiah Kuala University in Banda Aceh—my segue to retirement from teaching full-time at USC." She also notes that she and her daughter, Nile Kurashige '01, a botanist with the city of Seattle, attended the Barnard Alumnae Winter Pot Luck in Seattle in December.

**Marcy Cohen Cherensky** teaches English literature to 10th through 12th graders of deeply varying abilities at Norman Thomas High School in New York City. She loves teaching *The Great Gatsby* and August

Wilson's *Fences*. Her son, Adam, is at UCLA Law School and her daughter, Joanna Cherensky '94, attends USC School of Cinema-Television. Marcy and her husband, Leonard, live in Westfield, N.J.

**Phyllis Ruttenberg Denbo** retired two years ago from her post as a college administrator. One day a week she volunteers in the Camden, N.J., schools tutoring in reading and assisting in first- and second-grade classrooms. Twenty-five years ago she and her husband, Jay, bought a place in Maine on Deer Isle, on Penobscot Bay. There she's taken up painting watercolors. She's also the chairman of the social action committee of her synagogue in Philadelphia. Her daughter, Jennifer, 35, graduated from Haverford and New York University, and lives in New York City; she is the assistant director of the Center for European Studies. Phyllis's son, Seth, obtained his Ph.D. in history from the University of Warwick in England and married an Englishwoman. They're fixing up their house in a village outside of Oxford.

Ever since 1959, when they first arrived at Barnard, Phyllis has stayed close with **Roberta Blaker Handwerker**, even though Roberta lives in Cincinnati. Roberta's the director of a series of outreach programs for the University of Cincinnati Medical School, called Pathways to Health Careers, which start with seventh graders and go through to college age, targeting underrepresented minorities. Roberta has been married for 42 years and her husband is the head of pediatric endocrinology at the University of Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Her daughter, Rachel Friedman, is friends with Phyllis' daughter, Jennifer. Rachel lives in Maplewood, N.J., and has two sons. Roberta's son, David, lives and works in Salt Lake City, Utah. He has a Ph.D. in geophysics and works in research and consulting. The Handwerkers

have closed on a second home, a condo near Salt Lake City.

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**64 Susan Romer** sends an upbeat note: "I have had a wonderful time for the past 12 years practicing adoption law and I am not ready yet to retire. When I stop having fun putting families together, I'll get ready to look for new challenges." She also enjoys her seven grandchildren.

**Donna Lockwood Leonetti** writes, "I've never strayed far from my birthplace in Seattle and currently am an associate professor at the University of Washington, department of anthropology, where I serve on the biocultural faculty. My research in recent years has focused on the evolutionary roles of grandmothers in the reproductive success of their children via taking care of grandchildren and positive impacts on their survival. The data come from two ethnic groups in northeast India, one with a patrilineal, the other with a matrilineal kinship system. I became a grandmother of twin boys five years ago, which stimulated this direction in my career. Prior to that I focused my research on Japanese-Americans with reference to fertility, mortality, aging, and diabetes."

**Wendy Lipkind Black** received her master's in special education from Teachers College and taught emotionally disturbed children for five years. Five more were spent in the criminal justice system, where she helped design employment programs for ex-offenders. After 10 years in the non-profit world, she moved to California and took a job as an assistant to a literary agent. In 1976 Wendy moved back to New York and founded her

own literary agency, which is still active and has a specialty in nonfiction. She writes, "In 1984, much to the relief of my mother, I finally got married. My husband is book publisher Hillel Black. In 1988, I shocked the world by giving birth to my son, Harry, who is now a junior in high school. Life really is filled with interesting twists and turns ... I vividly remember attending classes with very smart women. And so I've tried to raise my son to understand how women should always be viewed as collaborators. I think that I have succeeded."

In browsing the Internet in pursuit of a genealogy hobby, **Sharon Block Korn** discovered copies of the *barnard bulletin* covering a period of 75 years. The first issue, which was published on Jan. 7, 1901, stated that the newspaper was instituted by a group of students who "agreed that something ought to be done to bring the disjointed parts of the College into a whole, to bring the diversity of interests into a unity of sympathy." The edition of Feb. 5, 1932, devoted considerable space to that year's Greek Games, to which Mrs. Herbert Hoover was invited due to her "great interest in College activities in the United States." The faculty director of those Greek Games was Marion Streng, who was associate professor of physical education during our years at Barnard.

Please send your news to **Andrea Machlin Rosenthal**, co-correspondent since 2004 and former class president, as she will now be the sole class correspondent.

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**65** We received a nostalgic reflection on our 30th Reunion from **Susan Rothberg Malbin**, who has a Ph.D. and works as a senior program officer in the office of library services in the



Institute of Museum and Library Services, Washingtoniana Division. During a three-week vacation in Italy she visited the Guggenheim palazzo in Venice, among other sites. In the garden, she “immediately thought of our reunion and how [nice it was that] there was an alternative to the dinner dance”—i.e., the wonderfully relaxed and hospitable evening at **BJ Lunin-Frishberg’s**. Susan has three adult children, all of whom live in New York, which “really simplifies calling.”

If you think your news won’t interest us, you’re wrong. Your correspondents have a great attitude toward life: When it’s not boring and awful, it’s great. **Ann Selgin Levy** attended the reunion of her sixth grade class at P.S. 9 on West End Avenue, where she reconnected with an old friend. Her former principal also attended. He’s 100 years old and has “a steady step and clear mind and told stories going back almost a century.” **Elizabeth Farber Bernhardt** broke her ankle—a “steady step” does not describe her—but is more-or-less happily mobile on her crutches.

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40TH REUNION: JUNE 8-JUNE 11, 2006

**66 Helen Longino** has joined the Stanford University faculty as professor of philosophy.

**Andrea Gray Stillman**, whose daughter is a Barnard sophomore, is the annual fund director at the United Nations International School, a K-12 school mainly for children of U.N. employees.

**Barbara Wolfson**, M.D., a partner in Dayton Pediatric Imaging, works at Dayton Children’s Medical Center in Ohio. She loves her work

and says, “The technology in radiology has become very advanced, and I feel like I play with video games all day—and they help children’s lives!” Barbara and her husband, Jon, have “three wonderful children.”

**Karin Perloff Shields** is a reading specialist at Scarsdale (N.Y.) High School. One of her daughters expects to graduate from Yale this spring, another is a former transcontinental truck driver, and her son is in rabbinical school at Hebrew Union College.

The New York State Art Teachers Association named **Barbara (Bonnie) Hilkevitch Ida** the 2005 regional art educator for their Adirondack section.

**Sandra Levy Birnbach’s** husband is an inventor and designer of high-tech electronics for the defense industry. He has moved his business out of their home, and Sandy is performing the duties of office manager.

Last summer, **Carrie Wilson** and her husband, Edward Green, visited Europe, where Carrie sang, first “The Angel’s Farewell” by Edward Elgar at the University of Birmingham, U.K., and then music by the troubadour Marcabru at the Medieval and Renaissance Music Conference in Tours, France. She also took part in dramatic and musical productions with the Aesthetic Realism Theatre Company, including playing the role of Shakespeare’s Olivia. Last year, at the opening of the Terrain Gallery’s 50th anniversary show, Carrie presented an illustrated history of the gallery, which can be seen online at [www.terraingallery.org/Some-History.html](http://www.terraingallery.org/Some-History.html).

**Suzy Abeles Boehm** and her husband, Lincoln (CC ’66), have been married 42 years and have two sons and two grandsons. Lincoln sold his company, Sterling Publishing, to Barnes & Noble. Suzy retired after many years as a psychologist and psychoanalyst. Now the two of them spend half their time traveling around

the world on their ship *The World*. The remainder of the year they catch up with family and friends and “the culture of our beloved New York City.”

**Dorothy Hobbs Kroenlein** and her husband, David, enjoy visiting their five children, who live in California, London, New Jersey, New York, and Virginia. The Kroenleins have welcomed their third grandchild.

For **Joy Markman Davis**, the parenting role continues full force with a grandson in kindergarten and a child in first grade.

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**67 Susan Scrimshaw** has been selected as president of Simmons College, the only women’s undergraduate college in the city of Boston. Susan is presently dean of the School of Public Health, University of Illinois at Chicago, and professor of community health sciences and anthropology.

**Carol Stock Kranowitz** has authored two books, *The Goodenoughs Get in Sync* and *Preschool Sensory Scan for Educators*. Both books explain sensory processing disorder; the former is for children, the latter geared toward educators. In her spare time she keeps busy with one granddaughter and three grandsons.

**Dana Gleicher Kissner** lives in Ann Arbor, Mich. She continues to practice and teach at Wayne State University School of Medicine and at Detroit Medical Center.

**Norma-Jeanne Solomon-Bruce Hennis** is a founder of an NGO, the Hope Initiative in Nepal ([www.hopenepal.org](http://www.hopenepal.org)). If you’re interested in volunteering, you can look up Norma-Jeanne on the online directory ([www.barnard.edu/alum](http://www.barnard.edu/alum)). Norma’s daughter, Katherine, recently graduated from the University of Vermont and has been to Nepal to set up the

educational center developed by the Hope Initiative. She'll return this summer to run the new orphanage.

We're sorry to report that **Lynn Mitchell** passed away peacefully at her home in November 2005 after a long battle with breast cancer. She had two professional careers: one as a child psychologist and one as a diagnostic radiologist. She was the first female officer of the Los Angeles Radiological Society;

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**68** Many thanks to **Margaret Dessau**, who graciously opened her Tribeca loft to New York-area alumnae for a pre-holiday party in early December. **Karen Mandell Fleiss** and her husband, David, a former medical colleague of Margaret's, were there. Karen reports that there were two weddings in her family last year. Also attending the party were **Jane Goldberg**, who works for Douglas Elliman, the New York real estate firm; **Linda Rosen Garfunkel** and her husband; **Rebecca Schwartz Greene** and her husband, who came in from South Orange, N.J., before leaving for Hawaii; and **Patricia Harrigan Nadosy**, whose husband was stuck in Boston and who reports using her doctorate in botany in her

volunteer work with children, which focuses on nature and conservation. Also present were **Barbara Pollock Ahnholz** and her husband, an artist who had a show in February at a gallery on 57th Street; **Leslie Morioka**, a partner at White & Case; **Rosalie Siegel**, who works for the Port Authority, and her husband; and **Istar Schwager** and her husband. Istar's Web site about parenting has been featured on CNN.com.

**Susan Kristal Wine** graciously contributed her vintage wines and champagne to the party, increasing everyone's fun, and Patricia Harrigan Nadosy generously contributed superb catering; **Elissa Forman Cullman** made a financial contribution; and a Barnard bartender helped. Unfortunately, **Penelope Parkhurst Boehm**'s buzzing wasn't heard over the din of the party, so she couldn't gain entry to the building.

Pat Nadosy reports that her oldest daughter, Meghan Ilona Nadosy, married Trevor Magyar on June 25, 2005, in Southampton, N.Y. Meghan graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Amherst, and the groom graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Princeton. Pat's middle daughter, Andrea, is earning a master's degree in urban planning at Columbia, and her youngest daughter, Lara, is a senior in high school. Pat's husband, Peter, is an advisory director at Morgan Stanley in asset management and the interim chief investment

officer of the Harvard Management Company. Peter spends three days a week in Boston, and Pat goes up from New York at least one day a week. Her life is "hectic, but very exciting."

In January 2006, **K.C. Cole** joined the University of Southern California, Annenberg as a visiting professor of journalism, as part of the Carnegie-Knight Initiative on the Future of Journalism Education. She will help develop a new specialized graduate journalism degree program focusing on science and technology. K.C. has been a science writer and columnist for the *Los Angeles Times* since 1994. She's also written seven nonfiction books, numerous articles for publications ranging from *The New Yorker* to *The Smithsonian*, and has taught at Wesleyan University and UCLA. Among her awards are the American Institute of Physics Science Writing prize, the Skeptics' Society Edward R. Murrow Award for Thoughtful Coverage of Scientific Controversies, and the Elizabeth A. Wood Science Writing Award from the American Crystallographic Association. She's working on a philosophical biography of the late Frank Oppenheimer.

**Kirsten Grimstad** is chair of the bachelor of liberal arts program at Antioch University Los Angeles. Previously, she was on the faculty of Vermont College for 16 years.

**Nancy Jacoby Akbari** has become a grandmother with the birth of her grandson, Kamron Akbari-Bradley, on Dec. 23, 2005. Nancy's younger daughter, Sami, is a singer/songwriter in New York City; her work can be heard at [www.myspace.com/samiakbari](http://www.myspace.com/samiakbari).

We regret to report the death of **Beatrice Hsia Hirano** in April 2005. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Tatsuo Hirano, and three children.

My husband, Robert, and I, **Jerilyn Seife Famighetti**, proudly report that our daughter, Karen, graduated a semester early from Barnard,

## Resume Your Education at Barnard

If you graduated from Barnard and would like to take additional courses (e.g., in order to fulfill premed requirements), or if you'd like to resume studies toward a B.A. after having left five or more years ago without the degree please contact: for postbaccalaureate courses, Dean Ani Bournoutian 212-854-2024 or [abournoutian@barnard.edu](mailto:abournoutian@barnard.edu); for resumed study toward a B.A., Dean Aaron Schneider 212-854-2024 or [aschneider@barnard.edu](mailto:aschneider@barnard.edu).



in February 2006, with a major in political science. We're also proud to add that she began working in January as a staff aide to a member of the New York City Council, for whom she had interned (and to whom Karen demonstrated dedication and sheer brilliance as a campaign worker).

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**69** **Laura Seligman Bernstein** has co-authored, with Ron Miller, *Healing the Jewish-Christian Rift: Growing Beyond Our Wounded History* (Skylight Paths). Laura says, "The book is a culmination of a five-year spiritual journey and it feels like I've just given birth!"

**Irene LeGuyader Weaver Gilroy** married William Gilroy on Sept. 4, 2005. Shortly after, her daughter, Caroline, and son-in-law, David, welcomed a son, Maxwell David Lenci, Irene's first grandson. Irene and her new husband divide their time between their home in Peapack, N.J., and Bonita Springs, Fla. In May, they attended the graduation of William's youngest son, Bill, who received his MBA from Columbia Business School. Irene retired from teaching French after 35 years. She says one of her favorite students, Sarah Rapp '09, loved her first semester at Barnard.

**Elaine Kuracina**, playwright and filmmaker, directed an original theatrical event, *Forever Cows*, celebrating the bicentennial of Canton, N.Y.

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**70** **Beatrice Skolnik Kriger** writes from the Weizmann Institute of

## ALUMNA PROFILE: PATRICIA LYNN TOUZEAU '69

### Better Late Than Never

**P**atricia Lynn Touzeau would like to share some wisdom with older alumnae. "If you have a dream you want to fulfill, go for it, whatever your age."

Touzeau is now a second-year psychiatry resident at Rosalind Franklin University's Chicago Medical School. At 58, she's about double the age of most other residents.

Touzeau doesn't regret her decision to enter medical school at age 51. She knew she wanted this soon after graduating from Barnard. And she tried. Within a few years of receiving her bachelor's degree, Touzeau applied to medical school. In interviews, she met resistance and discouraging comments: about her age, her gender, and the possibility that if she were to marry and have children, she'd probably just drop out of medical school. "That was at the cusp of greater acceptance of women into medical school, and you could say things like that," she says.

So Touzeau put away thoughts of medical school, and instead pursued a master's degree in biology from Columbia. She received that degree and more, studying at the Université Libré de Bruxelles in Brussels and The George Washington University, among others. Touzeau married a doctor, and she followed him to his internship and residency locations. She even earned a Ph.D. in physiology at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md. After completing a postdoc, Touzeau realized she didn't want to be a professor. "I really thought the career in research would be fulfilling enough, but it wasn't," she says.

By mid-1991, Touzeau, by then divorced, was working as a patent examiner at the United States Patent and Trademark Office, saving money to apply to medical school. Again she faced a litany of obstacles; this time she was undeterred. "I said, 'That's what I was told when I was 23, and I don't believe it anymore,'" she says. In 1997, on her third attempt at admission, Touzeau got the acceptance letter she'd waited decades for from St. George's University School of Medicine in Grenada, the West Indies. She graduated in 2002 and is on course to complete her residency in 2008. She hopes to do a fellowship in addiction psychiatry or neuropsychiatry.

There's good and bad in being so much older than her classmates: some students look to her as a mother figure, while others are intimidated by Touzeau's age, education, and experience; still others don't get her decision to go back to school when she did. But Touzeau says she's happy, having survived overwhelming odds. "Gandhi once said happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony. I love psychiatry, and after all these years, I'm finally in harmony with myself."

—Laura Shin



Follow your dreams—at any age, says Patricia Touzeau.

Science in Israel, where she has lived for the past 27 years, that her second grandson was born in December.

**Wendy Slatkin** reports from California that her daughter, Sara

Cohen '09, loves being a first-year at Barnard, and her son, Josh, who attends Brandeis University, had a junior semester abroad in Barcelona.

**Rebecca Cook**, of Toronto,

writes that *Reproductive Health and Human Rights*, which she co-authored with her husband, Bernard Dickens, and an Egyptian colleague, Dr. Mahmoud Fathalla, is available in French and Chinese, and is due out in Arabic in 2006.

**Susan Roth** holds dual appointments in the department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences and the women's studies program at Duke, and is a licensed therapist in the state of North Carolina. She's known for her studies of sexually victimized women, including clinical-treatment studies of adult survivors of childhood incest.

**Patricia Haim's** third and youngest child is attending Oregon State University. Patricia practices business immigration and management-side labor and employment law in Portland, Ore., and was just elected to the board of the Northwest EEO/Affirmative Action Association.

**Abby Glazer Robinson** is a photographer in Portland, Ore. She was a participating artist at Fotofest 2006, the Eleventh International Biennial of Photography and Photo-Related Art. The festival's theme is the earth, which coincides with Abby's photographic representations of the natural world and idealized versions of the landscape. Abby also had a solo show at the Blue Sky Gallery in Portland.

**Miriam Lipnick Foss** writes, "Those years at Reid Hall continue to enrich my life today ..." She reunited with her sister-in-law and **Carole Kornreich** in Denver. Their marriages to the Foss brothers, Dan and Forrest, have resulted in shared nieces and nephews, shared life events, and mutual hobbies. Miriam also participated in the Great Writers at Barnard conference in November 2005.

**Patsy Davis Kreins** moved from Baltimore to Albuquerque, where she's relearning Spanish. "(After) four years of it in high school and three more at Barnard, I was always determined to find a way to use it someday."

At a luncheon at Casa Italiana at

Columbia University, **Evelyn Langlieb Greer** was awarded the Lawrence A. Wien Prize for Social Responsibility by Columbia University Law School. It recognizes professional and community activities that advance the public good. Evelyn is an elected member of the Miami-Dade County school board.

**Barbara Trainin Blank** writes from Harrisburg, Pa., that she's interested in relocating to New York. Please let her know of any opportunities for a writer and editor. She's also had a few plays produced locally. Barbara has one daughter in high school and another at the American Hebrew Academy in Greensboro, N.C.

**Olive Makris Verbit** writes of her first trip to Europe last year: "We were at the train station in Paris trying to figure out where to get the train for Avignon, France. Guess who was there at the schedule board? Professor Serge Gavronsky." Olive is a jogger and will attempt her first marathon on Nov. 20 in Philadelphia. She and her husband live in Dover, Pa., and work for the government. Their son, John, is a sophomore at Penn State University.

**Susan Dach Terman** finished her 11th year with Lee Hecht Harrison, a global human-capital solutions consulting firm. She's active with the Barnard Club of Greater Northern New Jersey and is on the board of the Northern New Jersey Rockland chapter of the Society of Human Resources Managers.

**Linda Mason Perlin** is in private practice as a psychotherapist in Princeton, N.J. She and her husband, Michael, a law professor at New York Law School, just celebrated their 35th anniversary. They have two children: Julie, 25, is pursuing a Ph.D. in developmental biology at Stanford University; and Alex, 22, will graduate from Macalester College and hopes to go to law school.

Last year, **Elizabeth Langland** left her position as dean of humanities, arts, and cultural studies at UC Davis

to take a position as provost and vice president for academic affairs at SUNY, Purchase. She and her husband, Jerald Jahn, are happy to be back in the New York area, since both of their children live there.

**Janna Jones Bellwin** practices international finance and project finance with Baker & McKenzie. Janna reports that both of her children are married with jobs, houses, and pets. Her daughter, Jeremy Savage, is going back to school for an MBA at the NYU Stern School of Business. Janna reconnected with **Ginna Dean Miller** and **Karen Cwalinski**. Janna and **Laura Nelson** enjoyed fun times on Cape Cod, where Janna has a small house.

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35TH REUNION: JUNE 8-JUNE 11, 2006

**71 Kathryn Zufall-Larson** writes, "Our family has entered its fourth generation at Barnard with my niece, Amy Stetten, now a first-year. I still enjoy my part-time practice of internal medicine in Seattle, lots of chamber music with my violin, and my three wonderful Stanford sons."

Congratulations to **Tatiana Goerner Barr**, who was granted tenure as associate university librarian at the University of Florida, Gainesville.

**Muriel Desloovere** has retired from practicing law in St. Pete Beach, Fla., and now acts occasionally as an arbitrator for the Better Business Bureau and NASD. With more time to volunteer, she recently became involved in local politics. She sends her best, just in case she can't make it to reunion, but we hope she does.



In New York, **Katherine Brewster** has created the ATMA Center of Yoga & Healing, which offers yoga, meditation, and private healing sessions to relieve stress and promote balance and harmony.

Three cheers for **Linda Elovitz Marshall** in Selkirk, N.Y., who has become a grandmother three times (two girls and one boy). Linda's most recent enterprises, the Pet Husband® and Pet Boyfriend™, are coming to fruition. She finds that, "much as Erik Erikson predicted—this stage of life to be a period of great fulfillment and 'generativity.'" She's also spending more time in New York and would love to "hang out" with classmates in the city. Or, we're welcome to visit her upstate.

**Julia Hong Sabella**, our class president, took a break from Class Notes this session to tabulate our mountain of data from the 2001 survey. By the time you read this, she hopes to have this year's mini-survey tabulated as well. Many thanks, Julia.

On Feb. 9, with a tangle of mixed emotions, I, **Catherine Bilzor Cretu**, received my Barnard diploma, after completing my senior thesis in November 2005. My mom and 15-year-old son, Andrew, accompanied me to New York for the ceremony—a small but enthusiastic gathering of family, friends, and 16 graduates in the James Room. Constance Brown of the registrar's Office made a special effort to attend and congratulate me, which was incredibly thoughtful and much appreciated. Friend and former Barnard-in-Washington Club fellow board member Erin Fredrick '01, now our reunion contact in Alumnae Affairs, was also there to share a hug.

Reunion is June 8 through 11. New Yorkers, if you can't come for the entire weekend, at least join us Thursday or Friday night for our '71-only events. Those of us coming from out of town don't get many opportunities to see you. I look forward to seeing many of you in June.

—submitted by *Catherine Bilzor Cretu*  
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**73 Carol Ann Nelson**, of South Dartmouth, Mass., has been appointed director of facilities for the Diocesan Building Commission in Providence, R.I. She'll be responsible for staff supervision, facilities management of diocesan-owned buildings and property, and technical support and consultation to all diocesan parishes, schools, and agencies in regard to capital, environment, and maintenance projects.

Carol's been with the Diocesan Building Commission since 1997, first as facilities manager, then as field project manager. Previously, she was the managing principal of her own architectural consulting firm. Also, she's a registered architect in the state of Rhode Island and has more than 28 years experience in the field.

Carol holds a bachelor's from Columbia University, a bachelor's in architecture from Cornell University, and a master's in public administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Please write "Barnard Alums" in your e-mail subject heading when sending me your news.

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**74** I received the first response to the question of who in our class has the youngest child. **Celeste Chin Arvanitis** writes that her son, Zachary, is 7. Celeste also has a daughter, Alexandra, 17. Doing the math, I think Zachary may be the youngest child of a classmate, so now I want to know: Who is the oldest?

**Marilyn Sanders Mobley** has

been associate provost for educational programs at George Mason University for the past three years. In 2001 she was called to the ministry and now serves as a licensed associate minister at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Woodbridge, Va. Marilyn's passions include her ministry, two book projects, and staying connected to her sons, Rashad, 31, and Jamal, 27, and to her grandson, Carlton, 8. (With a 31-year-old son, is Marilyn the classmate with the oldest child?)

**Rachelle V. Browne**, assistant general counsel at the Smithsonian Institution, chairs the annual Legal Issues in Museum Administration course. Rachelle hopes to see Chicago alumnae when the course meets there.

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**75 Jessica Chao**, a vice president with Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, has the interesting challenge of advising individuals, families, foundations, and corporations about how to give money away wisely. She asks for advice on how to persuade her daughter, Noro Ko, to attend Barnard. I'm fairly certain this isn't a serious problem. After all, a young woman with the grades to get into Barnard cannot be causing her mom much worry. Has anyone tried a method like *The Fantasticks*? "Young lady, don't even think of applying to a women's college." Might work.

I don't know what advice **Joanna Davis Berkowitz** gave her daughters, but it appears to have worked out. Rachel is a first-year at Northwestern majoring in anthropology and international public health. Elizabeth will graduate from Columbia in May with an art history degree. Joanna practices medicine in Plantation, Fla.

**Joan Silverman McMahon** has an interesting teaching load at DeWitt Clinton in the Bronx. She teaches two sections of AP biology and two sec-

tions of research, one tailored for seniors and one for ninth graders. She puts likely students in touch with the admissions office.

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30TH REUNION: JUNE 8-JUNE 11, 2006

**76 Robyn Grayson** is the first of us who I know has officially retired. That isn't to say she's not working—she has three kids: her daughter, Jamie, is a junior at Hamilton College; her son, Zach, 12, is preparing for his bar mitzvah; and her younger son, Sam, 9, isn't far behind. Robyn spends a lot of time working in that age-old profession: chauffeur. She also spends a lot of time working on her tennis game.

After years of trying, I managed to track down my sophomore suitemate, **Joan Richards Harrison**, who married Bill Harrison (CC '76) shortly after she graduated. Bill joined the Navy and they've moved 17 times since then, which explains why I had a hard time finding her. Bill recently retired as a Navy captain, and he's working for a defense contractor. Joan works for a nonprofit organization and teaches evenings. They've settled down—at least for now—in Springfield, Va., with their two sons.

I also caught up with **Sandi Caskie**, who was with me for the births of both of my kids. Sandi is practicing gynecology in the Washington, D.C., area and she estimates she's delivered some 2,000 babies. She's married to fellow doctor Julian Safran, and they have two sons, Benjamin, a junior at Brown, and Jeremy, a high schooler.

**Elizabeth Saenger** reports that she's program director of psychiatry at Medscape, LLC, a "dream job" that combines her interests in writing, mental health, and working with people. She recently spent a month in Venice, Italy, with her boyfriend but quotes Jane

Austen as saying, "For true comfort, there's nothing like staying at home."

**Resa Schleifer Fogel** has a Ph.D. in clinical psychology and has been at Hackensack Universal Medical Center since 1989. Resa lives in Clifton, N.J., with her husband, Yossi, a dentist. They have three future Barnard graduates: Rebecca, 15, Yonina, 14, and Yaffa, 10. Resa's an active alumna, serving as an adjunct board member for the Barnard Club of Northern New Jersey.

Barnard Club of Connecticut President **Susan Sommer Klapkin** writes about her close circle of Barnard friends, all of whom attended each other's 50th birthdays. Susan, **Nancy Matis Dreyfuss**, **Andrea Katz**, and **Naomi Rosenblum Remes** all marked their 50th with parties. **Martha Bakos Dietz** also attended the parties but marked her own more quietly.

Nancy lives and works in New York as a speech language pathologist. Her future Barnard grad, Leah, is a 10th grader at the Fieldston School. Martha's married to a lawyer, and they have three non-future Barnard grads: Christopher, a senior at Connecticut College; Evan, a high school senior; and Graham, 12, a future hockey star. Andrea is chief marketing officer at the law firm of Blank Rome. Her daughter, Samantha, is at Wellesley and her son, Harry, is a high school sophomore.

I tracked down **Helene White**, a judge who serves on the court of appeals in Detroit. Helene first ran for judge at 25 and has the distinction of being one of those Clinton judicial nominees who never got a hearing. In addition to her judging duties, she also does mommy duty to Benjamin, 12, and future Barnard grad Frankie, 9.

—RGH

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**77 Ellen Kushner** is moving back to New York after several years in Boston. After a long search, she writes, "finally, in April [2005], we found it: a sprawling old apartment on Riverside Drive off W. 98th St. Built in 1908, with lots of molding, parquet, 10-foot ceilings, (nonworking) ornamental fireplaces, and a wood-paneled dining room—it also seems to have the original plumbing and wiring, and time has not been kind to the woodwork, so it needs plenty of TLC." After closing in late June they found "a wonderful architect and contractor whom we love working with—and have been waiting ever since for permits to start renovation. Hopefully, by the time you see this, we'll be nearing the end of our epic."

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**79 Lisa Kalus Hendler** has lived in downtown Manhattan for the past 18 years, and has been married to her husband, Bruce, chief landscape architect for the New York City Department of Design and Construction, for 21 years. Lisa has one son, Elliot, 18; and two daughters, Clara, 9, and Willa, 7, who are planning to attend Barnard. Her company, Lisa Kalus & Associates, places construction management and engineering personnel and is doing quite well.

**Kathy Papadakis** found out that a bigger fish, Concentra Health Services, swallowed her employer's company. Kathy writes, "So after 14 years I am moving from a clinic in Meriden, Conn., to one in Wallingford. Basically I will be doing the same thing—providing occupational health services, but I will be doing it in a larger venue with a new



computer system.” Longing to bridge the generation gap in the new generation of high technology, Kathy noted with a sigh, “If only I could bring my 14-year-old son to help me with the computer.”

**Larissa Shmailo** is settling happily into her new job at McGraw-Hill education. A CD of her poetry, *The No-Net World*, is being produced by SongCrew. She had a release party/reading for the CD, which features her own poetry and a smattering of Russian translations. It will be available on Amazon, on CDBaby, and directly from the poetess herself. She also writes that she’s “single again and loving it. Hope to see you all and other classmates soon.”

**Sharon Gordon**, a clinical psychologist specializing in eating disorders, is in private practice in Rochester, N.Y., and also teaches psychology interns at the University of Rochester. Sharon is married with a daughter and a son: Lili, 16, and Jordan, 12, respectively. She writes, “It’s cold and gray up here but we love it. Though, I must admit, I still miss the Upper West Side!”

My son started college this fall and I spent Thanksgiving weekend touring some of the effects of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. It was a sad but fitting reminder of the simple things that one must be thankful for in this world. I’ve been restoring my house, an 1859 Victorian that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the New Jersey Register of Historic Places. I also chaired a conference, “Right to Learn: The Future of Gifted Special Education,” and have successfully persuaded the mayor of the borough of Haddonfield to have the first public menorah lighting since Haddonfield was settled (by Elizabeth Haddon in 1632).

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**80** As the third of my four children drove off to take the SAT, I consoled myself by thinking of **Lesley Harris**, whose daughter is only 5. Lesley herself looks untouched by time. Formerly a corporate lawyer in San Francisco, she’s moved to less-hecktic Santa Cruz to start her own firm. Or I can conjure up a vision of ravishing **Patricia Sosnow**, a stage manager in New York with a 3-year-old daughter.

Then there’s **Noelle Nicholson**, whose daughter is just about 2. I thought that with Noelle’s tendency to plan ahead, they may already be scoping out the SAT. With her graduate degree from Columbia Engineering, pioneering Noelle was the first woman to hold each job she took in her first decade of employment.

**Priscilla Campbell** has a son at the University of Pennsylvania and a daughter at Yale. Priscilla teaches world history at East Hampton High School on Long Island and is president of the East Hampton Teachers’ Association. In case having two offspring in elite colleges isn’t enough, one of Priscilla’s former students now attends Barnard.

Barnard is what it is due, in part, to the labors of **Rosemarie Fabien**, Ph.D., on the leadership council, but that’s just a nibble of the dish about her. She’s been promoted to senior associate in marketing communications at Hillier Architecture in Philadelphia. She’s served as senior writer there since 1992 and has worked in public relations for cultural institutions and design firms in the United States and overseas for more than 20 years. She’s also co-chair of the AIA Philadelphia Chapter’s Communications Committee and a member of the board of the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia. She puts the great in Greater Philadelphia.

As **Lois Elfman**, journalist and publisher, says, “People are endlessly

fascinating.” This means you. Please send news.

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25TH REUNION: JUNE 8-JUNE 11, 2006

**81** **Jane Becker** writes from Seattle, Wash., where she and her husband, Jason Kintzer (CC ’81), have lived for the past 15 years. She says they came to Seattle for her fellowship and never left. “Seattle is great for our family. We enjoy raising our children here and invite alumnae to visit,” Jane writes.

Sadly, I must report that **Suzette Loh** succumbed to cancer on Feb. 1, 2006, at her home in Scarsdale, N.Y. Suzette was mother to Theodore, 10, and Thomas, 4, and wife to Antonio Lee. As a partner at Eisner LLP, one of the 20 largest regional accounting and advisory firms in the country, Suzette served as a financial advisor to trusts, estates, and private foundations. She also spoke on financial planning at various organizations, taught at colleges, and appeared as an expert on various media outlets.

Active in Chinese-American community affairs, Suzette was a past president of the Asian Financial Society and the Westchester chapter of the Organization of Chinese-Americans. She was also a trustee of the Sister Fund. She is survived by her husband, two sons, father, mother, two brothers, sister-in-law, and nieces.

One correction: **Evan Kriss** is the photo editor of *The Washington Post Magazine*, not the *Washington Post*, as reported in the previous column.

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**82** In addition to her financial planning practice at Winslow, Evans & Crocker

in Boston, **Dolores Kong** hikes mountains. In August, she and her husband, Dan, finished climbing the 100 highest peaks of New England, a longtime goal, with a bushwhack to the top of Kennebago Divide, North Peak. This spring, they were inducted into the Appalachian Mountain Club's Hundred Highest Club.

**Dina Morello Fuehrmann** writes that she and her family are planning trips to Denmark and Holland in this year, with a short visit to her parents in Arizona in October.

After living in Syracuse, N.Y., **Petra Hubbard** moved to the Dallas, Texas, area, where she has been living for about nine years. Petra is a teacher of the visually impaired and works for a regional education service center, traveling to serve visually impaired children in three different districts. She does a lot of teacher consultation and also gives direct lessons to the students as needed about vision-specific skills, such as Braille and special access technology. Last year she purchased a home in the suburbs. With all the traveling she does, she's glad not to have to deal with snowdrifts anymore.

**Lois Gimpel Shaukat** has been working as in-house legal counsel for immigration at McKinsey in New York for the past eight years. She's been married to Max Shaukat for 12 years and they have two children, Adam, 10, and Zohra, 6. While celebrating her parents' 50th anniversary with an Alaskan cruise in August 2005, Lois was able to "fulfill a dream" and visit **Diane Barrans** for an afternoon on Diane's own turf in Juneau. Diane runs the student financial aid program for the state of Alaska and, Lois reports, she's "still as smart and beautiful as ever." Lois also enjoyed catching up with **Amy Roth**, rabbi and mother of four.

**Isabel Nieves Salamon** attended a workshop at Teachers College and walked to Barnard on her lunch break. She says, "It was wonderful to

see a fine institution continuing on."

In what may be a first for this class, **Yolanda Navarro Pagan** writes that in December 2005 she moved to Puerto Rico to "retire in Paradise."

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**83 Wanda Phipps** had a residency at the artist's colony Fundación Valparaíso in Andalucía, Spain. She wrote every day in a house at the foot of the old Moorish fort village of Mojacar. Wanda has a poem in a Web journal, Coconut Three ([www.coconutpoetry.org](http://www.coconutpoetry.org)). Her own Web site is [www.mindhoney.com](http://www.mindhoney.com).

**Nancy Rieger** is very happy as a writer in the development department at the New York Botanical Garden. She invites all to visit the renovated Beaux-Arts building.

**Mercedes Luisa Liriano** moved back to the tristate area after 15 years away from it. She has also returned to her first career, advertising. After four years of exploration, experimentation, and discovery, she now does recruiting.

Celebrate Life honored **Maria Elena Fodera** and her sister in 2004 with a cocktail reception and dessert party. The party benefited Staten Island Friends of Hospice Care. Maria earned her doctorate from Georgetown University School of Medicine and is a general and vascular surgeon, co-director of the Women's Health Center, and director of the Center for Cosmetic Vein Surgery at St. Vincent's Hospital.

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**84 Irene Friedland** celebrated her eighth anniversary in the IT department of the Population Council, a

nonprofit public-health organization. She's an active member of the Dialogue Project, which brings Jews, Muslims, Christians, Israelis, Palestinians, and Arabs together for monthly discussions about the Middle East and their respective religions and cultures. She also helps with animal fostering and rescue work at New York City's Animal Care and Control shelter, and, with her mom, she sings and plays music for nursing home residents.

**Beth Lieberman's** family—daughters Sarah, 6, and Hannah, 2, and her husband, Steve Landau—are thriving. Beth's six-year-old book editing business is also doing well.

**Rebecca Shliselberg** moved to Israel after graduation, received an MSc at the Technion Israel Institute of Technology in urban planning, and then specialized in transportation in general and public transit. She now lives in Tel Aviv and works for PGL, a subsidiary of Delcan Inc., a Canadian civil-engineering firm, and recently became a principal of the parent company. She and Hillel Wachs have been married for 15 years and have two boys, Nadav, 13, Yoav, 9, and one girl, Shakayd, 4.

When **Hedva Hiesiger Fensterheim** last wrote, she was chair of the NGO Parents for Pluralistic Education. Meitarim Raanana Pluralistic High School, the junior high/high school in Raanana Israel that she helped establish, will be graduating its first class this year; of which, her second son, Yehuda, is a member. Hedva's now coordinator of the social entrepreneur fellowship program of the Israel Venture Network (IVN), a network of high-tech entrepreneurs and executives from Israel and the United States with the goal of increasing Israel's national competitiveness by promoting education and social programs. Hedva manages six fellows (social entrepreneurs), their projects, and their six IVN mentors. Her son Gedalia, 19, is in his second



year of Yeshivat Hesder in Yerucham. He'll train to be a pilot in the Israeli air force. Yehuda, 17, is majoring in music and is a talented and accomplished bassist. Daniel, 15, is in 10th grade in a religious boys' high school for the arts and is majoring in music with a specialty in piano (although he also acts and break-dances). Amazia, 12, the drummer in the family, graduates from elementary school this year. Amitai, 7, is in second grade and Nitzan, 5, is in kindergarten. Hedva's husband, David, is a product manager for Visonic Technologies.

Hedva keeps in touch with Sara Freudenberger Hirschorn '85, **Frae Delman Saltzberg**, Suzie Gross Schreiber '85, and **Debbie Lookstein Senders**, and sometimes sees Ellen Spitzer '83 and **Karen Gornish Wilchek**, who also live in Raanana. Hedva enjoyed seeing **Leslie Choueka Hefez** at her 25th high school reunion in March. **Julie Smerling Kerem** went to see her when Hedva's mother passed away in December 2004 on a visit to Israel. Hedva would love to hear from classmates planning to visit Raanana.

**Helen Rochlitzer Reale** and her husband, Peter, have lived in Los Angeles for the past 15 years. They have two children, Alexandra, 11, and Anthony, 8. Helen works part-time as a business manager for an investor, and coordinates carpools and logistics for her son's third-grade flag-football team. She also coaches her daughter's sixth-grade volleyball team and is proud of the team's winning record. Helen enjoys competing in beach volleyball tournaments, traveling, skiing, and cooking with her husband. They occasionally visit New York and spend time with her folks on Long Island.

**Marla Cohen** left *Woman's World* and is now head of marketing and public relations for the Jewish Federation of Rockland County. She's not sure what her overly lofty title means, although as part of her duties

she'll be editing a monthly newspaper, *The Rockland Jewish Reporter*.

**Monica Stordeur** writes, "after living in an ashram in upstate New York for two years, I moved to the mid-Hudson Valley to pursue my interest in art and writing." She works part-time in a weaving studio near Woodstock and lives in a house by a lake, where she enjoys being surrounded by the natural beauty of the area.

Speaking of areas of natural beauty, **Naomi Barell Urbaitel** writes from Vermont about her new business, Vermont Apple Chips ([vermontapplechips.com](http://vermontapplechips.com)). It started in her kitchen after her daughter won a raffle for the best dried apples. "A few dehydrators and a lot of apples later, we're in business. Our chips are all natural and made from local Vermont products."

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**85 Sharon Tubman-Green** has been living in Escondido, Calif., for about two years with her husband, Paris, and their two daughters, Muniphe and Malachi. "It's growing on me, but I miss my siblings and parents in the New York area," she writes.

**Debbie Loven Gray** had her third son, Jackson Hawkes, on Aug. 17, 2005. Jackson joins his big brothers Nicholas, 4, and Hudson, 2. Deb is a New York senior director at Conservation International, and so she no longer shares office space with **Jill Alcott-Baskin** at the World Wildlife Fund.

**Karen Estilo Owczarski** was appointed to the Trademark Proper Use Subcommittee of the International Trademark Association. She works part-time as an intellectual property attorney for the U.S. Postal

Service and lives in Virginia with her husband, John, and their four children, ages 10, 8, 6, and 3.

**Sharon Friedman** works in the Berkeley, Calif., schools, after 17 years in another district. Her son, Jonah, is 4.

Class President **Katherine Sinsabaugh's** Sinsabaugh/Hall Duo performed at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall on Feb. 25.

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20TH REUNION: JUNE 8-JUNE 11, 2006

**86 Julie Rosenfeld Krimsky** lives in Sharon, Mass., with her husband, Cary (CE '87), and children, ages 16, 13, 11, and 5. Sharon's an occupational therapist in the school system. She's teaching her oldest child to drive and her youngest to ride a bike. Her cousin Alice Krim '09 is in her first year at Barnard, keeping up a family tradition that includes Julie's father, Martin Melter (CC '60), and his sister, Helen Meltzer Krim '64.

In December 2005, **Rachel Leventman Shwalb** started as a data analyst for Brigham and Women's Hospital's physician services. She maintains and supports the credentialing and third-party payer database. After working in the financial service industry for 12 years, Rachel welcomes the shift to health care, where she's much more comfortable.

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**87** I planned on writing the notes for the winter issue but life (in the form of two kids and an editing job) got in the way. Without further ado, here's the news.

I spoke to my wonderful source, **Melinda Maerker**, in Los Angeles. Melinda's doing well with her company, Beyond Form, and is at work on

another start-up. She told me that **Beth Wightman** enjoys being an assistant professor in the department of English at California State University, Northridge, and that **Jessica Weigmann** lives in New York with her husband, Mark, and two children, Zeke and Oona, and is working on a screenplay.

Melinda also reports that **Colleen Hadigan**, a pediatrician in Boston, recently adopted Adissu, a 2-year-old boy from Ethiopia. **Lorna Sessler Graham** accompanied Colleen to Ethiopia to bring Adissu home.

**Debbie Davis**, my co-correspondent, tells me that **Sari Zimmer** had a baby, Lauren Zimmer Block, on March 7, 2005. Debbie also says that **Sharon Eicher** is teaching at a small liberal arts college in Kansas.

**Marian Eide** writes that she's an associate professor at Texas A&M where she teaches in the English department. In 2002, she published her first book with Cambridge University Press, *Ethical Joyce*.

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**88** Tara Polen '89 writes that **Erin O'Mara** is nearing completion of her training at the Institute for Contemporary Psychotherapy. Erin, who lives on the Upper West Side, is a therapist in private practice. After graduating from Barnard, Erin received a master of social work from Hunter College School of Social Work. Dr. **Karen Droisen** writes that she's taking time off from her work in development to spend time with her sons, Daniel and Leo. **Lilly Weitzner Ickson** was elected to the AABC Board and serves as chair of Barnard Alma Maters (Sweet

Mothers), a group of alumnae mothers who meet to explore issues of motherhood, work, and life in general. Lilly hopes that other moms in our class will come to the Alma Maters events, and encourages everyone to check with their regional Barnard clubs for events in their area. "Otherwise, life continues," writes Lilly. "I have two boys (ages 8 and 5) and am busy organizing our time."

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**89** Tara Polen writes, "It's been a banner year for **Samantha Black**. First, there was her fabulous, dance-the-night-away 40th birthday bash in June 2005, which featured scores of good friends and a couple of crates of excellent French Bordeaux ... and now she is reveling in the arrival of her son and first child, Ruslan Sergeivich Black, who was born on Jan. 24. He surprised Samantha and her partner, Sergei Mosin, by showing up a month early and weighing only 4 lbs. 11 oz. He's coming along just fine now.

"Meanwhile, across the park, **Sarah Weinstein Dennison** gave birth to her second child, Iris Dora, on Dec. 8, 2005. She weighed 8 lbs. exactly. Older brother, Benjamin, 4, loves being a big brother. He refers to Iris as 'little banana.'"

**Amanda Beesley** had her third baby, Charles Lincoln Weinstock. They live in Los Angeles. "A nice change from New York winters," she says.

**Abi Wright** does communications work for the Committee to Protect Journalists, a New York advocacy group. She's married to Stuart Macphee, who works in film. Their children are Calum, 3, and Ann, 1.

**Ellen Shaw** spoke to **Micheline Dugue**, who lives in New York and is a physician at Mt. Sinai, specializing

in geriatrics and Alzheimer's research.

Ellen also got these updates: **Rebecca Brown Adelman** lives in Colorado and chairs the Theater Society at the University of Colorado-Boulder. She also runs two other local theater companies. **Rebecca McKay**, a Hebrew translator who does work for an online magazine, lives in Iowa City, where she's working on a Ph.D. in comparative literature. She holds two M.F.A.s, one in creative writing and one in translation. **Jessica Wilkins** writes that after 15 years in corporate America, she left her job as manager of communications for the Travelers Cheques Group at American Express to focus full-time on the launch of her new business, puddin' n' pie™, an online baby boutique providing stylish gift baskets and clothing for the newborn. It was officially launched in January.

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**90** The globe-trotting **Laurie Behrman** reports that after graduation, she interned at the headquarters for International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) in London and did some volunteer work with IPPF's NYC office, which led to a job with EngenderHealth, a New York City-based international family-planning group. During her time there, Laurie co-authored a couple of papers that were presented at the 1993 annual meeting of the American Public Health Association. Then Laurie left New York to travel in Latin America, learn Spanish, and work with PRO-FAMILIA, the family planning association of Colombia. There she developed a brochure about domestic violence, and developed questionnaires and conducted interviews in Spanish on the issue of incorporating the topic of domestic violence into medical visits in the family planning clinics.



Laurie returned to New York to attend Teachers College, graduating in 2003 with a degree in health education. She has taught health and science in public schools in Westchester and Long Island, and is currently working as a leave-replacement health teacher at Hunter College High School. She's very happy not having to commute out of the city anymore.

**Jennifer Weiner** married Jeff Sachs on Dec. 10, 2005. They were introduced by Joni Finegold Sachs '92, who is married to Jeff's brother and lives in Virginia, where Jennifer recently became the rabbi at a local synagogue. Bridesmaids at the Atlanta wedding included Joni as well as Jennifer Horowitz '89, who are also sorority sisters of the bride. Joni's daughter, Lillie, was the flower girl.

Please indicate "class notes" or *Barnard* in the subject of your e-mails so they don't go in the spam folder.

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15TH REUNION: JUNE 8-JUNE 11, 2006

**91** I hope to see you at reunion, June 8 through 11.

**Danielle Feuillan** writes to say that, though she regretted missing **Manine Golden's** wedding in Seattle in July 2005, she heard it was great. She and her husband, Lee Benaka (CC '91), were able to attend **Johanna Bjorken's** wedding in Brooklyn in October. "Despite the deluge of rain, it was a lovely affair on a barge," she writes. Also in attendance were Maria Morris '90, Claire Shanley (CC '92), and **Meredith McGowan**. "It was lovely to see everyone," Danielle said.

**Alison B. Lovell** got her Ph.D. in Renaissance French literature from the CUNY Graduate Center in New York in September. She's now a humanities postdoctoral teaching fellow at Stanford University and on the

market for tenure-track positions.

**Robyn Smith Samuels** and her husband, Alan, welcomed their son Andrew Isaac at the end of Thanksgiving weekend 2005. "He is affectionately known as Andy and has been given a tremendous and gracious welcome from his older siblings: Sophie, 5, and Charlie, 3. I continue to work, part-time, at Tisch Family Interests in New York."

I ran into **Stephanie Caplan**, who lives in the East Village and works as an artist making original Jewish marriage contracts, known as ketubot. Her business card features an enchanting one on it. I also had dinner with **Andrea Salwen Kopel**, who's now a program director at the Big Apple Circus. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband, Ed, and their daughter, Ruby. Andrea tells me that **Susan Worters Reel** is finishing nursing school while her husband finishes medical school at Yale.

**Charlotta Westergren** had a fantastic solo show at the Bellwether Gallery in Chelsea.

I spoke to **Eliana Salzhauer** before she, her husband, and their baby, Joshua, moved to the Miami area. Joshua was born last summer. For the past few years, Eliana's been working on the *Letterman Show* and was hoping to secure a part-time position elsewhere once she was settled in Florida.

**Ondine Karady** started an interior design business about a year ago.

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**92 Sarena Straus** married Jamil Gary on Sept. 3, 2005, in Virgin Gorda, British Virgin Islands. **Nicole Gerson**, **Alexandra Militano**, and **Jennifer Byron Mercurio** attended. Sarena's first book, *Bronx D.A.: True Stories From the Sex Crimes and Domestic Violence Unit*, is being published by Barricade Books this month.

**Caroline Waldron-Brown**

enjoys being a stay-at-home mom to Alix, 2, and Carter, 1. **Jeanne Rhee Dechiario** moved a couple of miles from Caroline's house in Pennsylvania. They celebrated Jeanne's daughter's birthday last year along with **Dae Levine** and her family. Dae writes that she, her husband, Wade, and their daughter, Sullivan, are moving to Sydney, Australia, for a few years. She hopes there's a Barnard club there. If not, she may have to start one.

After going into labor at 2 a.m. on Christmas Day, **Carrie Kayser-Cochran** gave birth to Keira Jane Kayser-Cochran, 9 lbs. 8 oz. and 22 in., on Dec. 27. She's doing very well. Carrie took three months' maternity leave before returning to work at Sun Microsystems. She and her husband also run a small art-framing business out of their house in Colorado. The family, including the cat and dog, seem to be adjusting to their new lifestyle.

**Sarah DeLeo** writes that **Meghan Gerety** was the graphic designer on Sarah's new CD, *The Nearness of You*, which was listed in the Winter 2006 issue of *Barnard*.

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**93** Class Notes has gotten people excited about having a mini-reunion this spring, and they've led to bonding between classmates in Afghanistan. **Michelle Downs** read that **Frances Brinley Bruton** was in Afghanistan and passed the word on to **Wendy Shapiro** because Wendy's husband works in Kabul. When Brinley's husband was out to visit, the two couples spent time catching up over cheese,

crackers, and wine. Brinley is now in London, where she spends time with other Barnard women, including Hiromi Nishiura Stone '81 and Clare Delmar '83.

**Mikki Meadows-Oliver** is a Ph.D. candidate in nursing at the University of Connecticut, where she studies homeless adolescent mothers. Mikki also teaches in the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Program at Yale University School of Nursing and works as a pediatric nurse practitioner in the Children's Environmental Health Program at Yale New Haven Hospital, where she focuses on children with lead poisoning and asthma.

**Vanessa Brennan Kwok** and her husband, David, live in Scottsdale, Ariz., where she's practicing internal medicine at Scottsdale Osborn Hospital. Their most exciting news is the birth of her twin sons, who'll keep them busy for quite some time.

**Kristen O'Brien** has lived in Austin, Texas, for the past two years. She worked her way from being a freelance writer for local publications, to working in the VIP tent and going on the road with Cirque du Soleil, to doing public relations for a small company with "some of the hottest properties in town." She gets to promote some of the best restaurants, clubs, and bars in Austin. As she says, "Good thing I still love to go out late." Kristen also has helped start up the Barnard Club of Austin with Dale Freed Sonnenberg '63, which they kicked off with a potluck dinner that was attended by more than 20 alumnae.

**Whitney Walthall** and her husband live in Witzenhausen, Germany, where she directs a language school that serves two neighboring cities, teaches ayurvedic massage, and offers dance meditations and intensive dance workshops. She turned dance into a "passionate hobby" after a seven-year stint as a professional dancer, which allowed her to perform, teach, and choreograph in Denmark,

France, Germany, and Italy. She'd love to hear from alumnae in Germany.

**Irene Shum** received positive reviews on *Groundswell*, the MoMA exhibition she helped organize. The exhibit promotes dialogue on design and urban regeneration. It was the first survey of landscape architecture in the museum's history and was written up in newspapers around the globe. The exhibition is now in Essen, Germany, where it will be displayed at "Entry 2006: Perspective and Vision in Design," August through December 2006. You can visit the Web site at [www.moma.org/exhibitions/2005/groundswell/gs.html](http://www.moma.org/exhibitions/2005/groundswell/gs.html). Irene also worked on the exhibition "Greater New York 2005" at P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, published an article titled "Private Initiative, Public Good?" and became a member of ArtTable's New Leadership Alliance, a national organization of professional women in leadership positions in the visual arts.

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**94 Deborah Williams Cooper** and her husband, Bob (CC '91), had their second son, Pierson Emmanuel, in April 2005. Pierson's big brother, Wesley, is enjoying his baby brother. Debby left her environmental law practice to stay at home with them. She also has an artisan jewelry business ([www.celestial-designs.com](http://www.celestial-designs.com)).

**Tara de Jesus** has a 3-year-old son and a solo pediatric practice in Chicago that is in its second year.

**Dilruba Khanam** is certified in family medicine and is in private practice with an internal medicine group in Elizabeth, N.J.

**Priti Bhardwaj** is a locum tenens psychiatrist in New Zealand until April. After that she'll relocate to Los Angeles. Priti attended medical school

at Indiana University, completed her psychiatry training at Northwestern University, and a fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry at the University of Illinois in Chicago. She was married in India in December to Nickolas Korostyshevsky, with MaryAnn Machado '98 attending.

**Ha Lim U. Lee** and her husband, Ed, moved back to the Barnard neighborhood about two years ago, and she changed her career from architecture to real estate sales at The Marketing Directors, Inc.

**Tessa Derfner** returned from a month in Australia and New Zealand, where she was touring with singer/composer/pianist Diamanda Galas, whom she has managed for the past four years during a worldwide tour. Tessa is in her second year of graduate school, pursuing her master of fine art in fiction writing, while still directing theater. In June 2005 she visited the SpoletoUSA Festival, where she directed the play *After the Storm*, based on the true story about a female officer in the first Gulf War.

**Holly Frederick** is a book-to-film agent at Curtis Brown Ltd. She sells film rights for clients' books to producers and studios, and recently concluded a deal with producer Jen Small '93, a fellow English major.

**Elisa Aranoff** married Michael DeCicco, who legally changed his name to Michael DeCicco Aranoff. They live in Chicago. Alumnae in attendance were **Sarah Garfinkel, Carrie Lieberstein, Rachel Oshry, Naomi Roff-Kohn, and Shira Roffman Weinstein.** **Jessica Dello Russo** married Italian TV journalist Stefano Salimbeni in a civil ceremony in Cambridge, Mass., on Dec. 3, 2005, and again in Stefano's home parish of San Biagio in Fabriano, Italy, on Dec. 29.

**Alison Vance Scherer** and her husband, Tony, live in Avon, Conn., with their two children, Sam, 2, and Hayley, 5 months. Alison works part-



time at her family foundation in Hartford. **Rachel Tepfer Orzoff** and her husband live in Minneapolis. She's an education director for the Minnesota Department of Corrections, where she functions as the principal of the school. They teach literacy, vocational topics, and life skills required for reintegration into society after incarceration. Rachel went on leave to care for her daughter, Ellen Tina, who was born on Sept. 16, 2005.

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**95** I visited **Learka Bosnak** and Joy Gorman '96 at the duplex they purchased together in Los Angeles. The next-door neighbors are doing well and have each adopted a rescued dog.

**Lara Coutinho** writes that she moved from Indianapolis to Washington, D.C., in November to take a job with Booz Allen Hamilton.

**Bernadette Clemens** appeared in George Bernard Shaw's *Mrs. Warren's Profession* at the Beck Center in Cleveland, March 31 through April 30. In addition to serving on the Actors' Equity Liaison Committee for Northeast Ohio, Bernadette is the assistant director of presidential programs at Case Western Reserve University. She enjoyed her first campus walk in quite a few years while attending the Great Writers at Barnard conference in November. She is mother to Fiona, 8, and Nicholas, 6.

**Bonnie Doris Molina** and her husband, Al, have three children: Cassidy, 12, Al Jr., 10, and Daniel, 4. Bonnie earned a master of arts degree in elementary education from NYU in 1998 and worked as a substitute teacher in the New York City schools until moving to Freehold, N.J., six years ago. She writes, "We absolutely love it here. I began teaching in September at a middle school in Jackson, N.J. I teach

Spanish to students in grades six, seven, and eight. I also teach eighth-grade honors students. It is challenging to raise three children and work full-time, but I love every minute of it and couldn't be happier!"

**Maria Jebejian Stepanian** and Bryan Stepanian have been married for six years and have two sons, Robby, 4, and Arto, 1, and live in Greenwich, Conn. She writes, "I love staying home with the kids, and I still do some teaching/tutoring on the side."

**Lisa Aschkenasy** lives on the Upper West Side of Manhattan and is a family court attorney. While in Israel she visited with **Sarah Bronson**, Rachayl Novoseller Duker '96, and Batya Grunfeld '94. Toward the end of the trip, Lisa learned that her former roommate **Rebekah Adams Kaplowitz**, M.D., of Providence, R.I., and her husband, Mark, welcomed their second daughter, Shoshana, on Oct. 17, 2005. Their other daughter, Ruthie, is 2.

—GAK

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10TH REUNION: JUNE 8-JUNE 11, 2006

**96** I haven't heard a peep from any of you. Is everyone waiting for our 10th Reunion, June 8 through 11, to pass on news in person?

I saw my former roommate **Jessica Bloch** in November in New York. She lives in Bangor, Me., and works for the *Bangor Daily News*.

I still oversee two publications, *Securitization News* and *Real Estate Finance & Investment*, at Institutional Investor.

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**97 Jennifer Rosner-Eichenholz** reports that she finished her Ph.D. in clinical psychology and works closely with a 1996 alumna as a forensic psychologist on the Bellevue Hospital prison ward. Jennifer's been married to Jason Eichenholz for almost six years. They welcomed their second son, Matthew, in March 2005. Their other son, Jordan, is 3. They live in Englewood, N.J., where they've met many alumnae from the 1990s.

**Amanda Li Hope Friedman** became a certified architect in the U.K. She's also in the midst of a graduate gemology course at the GIA, "because after all that hard work studying and working as an architect, I think and feel my skills and interests are better suited for a design industry that deals with the beautiful micro rather than macro." In addition, she's an active member and treasurer of the Barnard Club of Great Britain, which has provided her with a fun way to meet other alumnae in the U.K.

**Kysa Nygreen** received a Ph.D. in education and social/cultural studies from University of California, Berkeley. She received a President's Postdoctoral Fellowship to work in the community studies and education departments at University of California, Santa Cruz.

**Jennifer K. Crean's** project *Doctors of Rock* was considered for an Emmy nomination. She was accepted into the Sundance Producer's Lab for two independent feature films.

**Stephanie Klein's** book, *Straight Up and Dirty: The Life of a Young New York Divorcée* (Regan Books, 2006), is a memoir of "the author's return to single life as a 'firm, fashionable, and let's face it—fetching' twenty-something," plus an account of the author's child-

hood experience at Fat Camp.

**Rebecca Zimmerman** reports that **Michelle Katz**, our class president, is the mother of Sage Frei, a baby girl born on Oct. 8. (7 lb. 8.25 oz., 19 in.).

**Vonessa Ruffin** was promoted to senior editor of the New York City office of Leadership Directories, Inc., a leading content provider.

**Heather McGeory** married Jeremiah Crowell (CC '96) on Sept. 10, 2005, in Bridgehampton, N.Y. She graduated from SIPA and now works in environmental finance and lives in Park Slope, Brooklyn.

**Carolyn Sawyer O'Keefe** sent me a beautiful card with all of her recent news. She got married in April 2005 to Brian O'Keefe, 35, senior editor at *Fortune*. As Carolyn works as a book publicist at Little, Brown, which is owned, along with *Fortune*, by Time Warner, the couple gets to work in the same building. Her bridesmaids included **Katherine Lange Meyer**, **Aidan Smith**, and **Andrea Lane Stein**. All three women have recently had babies, and Aidan moved to Hawaii to pursue a Ph.D. at the University of Hawaii.

**Alysa Gerstley Cohen** writes with more information about **Riva Blatt**, who passed away in November 2004. Riva is survived by her husband, Daniel, one son, and both of her parents. Thank you for correcting my report that mentioned only her mother and her child.

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**00** **Marisha Pessl's** first novel, *Special Topics in Calamity Physics*, will be published by Viking in August 2006.

**Julia Cheiffetz** is an associate editor at Random House. She's editing a book called *The Bridal Wave: How to Keep Your Head Above Hitching Hysteria*,

which she says is "somewhere between a postfeminist polemic and *He's Just Not That Into You*," as well as an anthology called *This Is Not Chick Lit: Stories by America's Best Women Writers*. She lives near **Amanda Pogany** and **Rachel Spector** in Brooklyn.

**Solvej Schou** says being an Associated Press reporter is "by turns intense, fulfilling, good, stressful, and a great opportunity." She wrote a feature, to be published all over the world, about the global Mod '60s revival scene. She performs her own music at shows in her home city, Los Angeles.

Our other star reporter is **Julia Scott**, who's working at the *Star Ledger* in New Jersey. She married in September 2003 and lives in Jersey City with her husband.

In 2002 **Joyce Wan** started Wanart LLC ([www.wanart.com](http://www.wanart.com)), which designs and produces cards, infant apparel, framed prints, and custom invitations and announcements. Wanart products are found at fine boutiques and museum stores throughout the world. In May 2004 Joyce married Stephen Hsu. Among the bridesmaids were **Kristine Chung**, **Melanie Lau**, **Risa Ohara**, and **Masumi Takamizu**. Joyce and her husband reside on the Upper West Side.

In March **Rachel Grundfast Lappen** married Justin Lappen (CC '02), whom she met at Columbia in 1998 and reconnected with later. They live in Baltimore, where Justin's finishing his last year of medical school at Johns Hopkins. Rachel's former roommates **Annie Bergen** and **Miriam Kalnicki** were in the wedding party, and many other alumnae attended.

Back here in New York, **Donna Vivino** is playing Shelley in the Broadway production of *Hairspray*. She resides in Weehawken, N.J., where she also works as a part-time teacher.

**Kathy Mirescu** has lived in Los Angeles for five years and is finishing her library and information science master's at UCLA. She hopes to pur-

sue a career in information architecture and will be interning at Symantec in the spring to further that goal.

**Rania Elbaz** is in her last year at Columbia's dental school and will graduate this spring. In August 2004 she married Zachary Ibrahim, a pediatric resident from Floral Park, N.Y. They celebrated their wedding with **Diane Aboushi**, **Asena Bahce**, **Umbreen Bhatti**, **Sophia Fu**, **Sandhya George**, **Miral Sattar**, and **Crystal Suri**.

**Alaina Colon** was appointed chief of staff to Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer.

William Jotham Drennan, the first child of **Kristie Kleiner** and Jesse Drennan (SEAS '98), was born on Dec. 12, 2005, weighing 6 lbs. 7 oz. and 20 in. long.

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6TH REUNION: JUNE 8-JUNE 11, 2006

**01** I spoke with **Germain Halegoua**, who's finishing her Ph.D. in media and cultural studies at University of Wisconsin at Madison. We talked about our friends from Sulzberger, including **Jodi Berkowitz**, who's about to finish her master's in library science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Erika Swanson** married Jason Willis, whom she met while earning a master's at Teachers College. They live in Hell's Kitchen, and Erika is the senior clinical research coordinator at the Autism Research Center at Mount Sinai School of Medicine. **Katherine Zamecki** graduated from UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School in 2005 and is finishing an internship at St. Luke's-Roosevelt



Hospital. In June, she'll start an ophthalmology residency at Mount Sinai.

While working full-time at the American Society for Microbiology, **Whitney Tull** completed a master's in international science and technology policy at George Washington University. **Rebecca Wildman** is a nurse at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and will begin a master's program in nursing at Columbia this summer. On Jan. 7, she married Michael Repetti. In attendance were **Kate Chaltain**, who was a bridesmaid, **Anna Isaacson**, and **Orli Zuravicky**.

**Rachel Kahn-Troster** married Dr. Paul Pelavin and is in her third year of rabbinical school at the Jewish Theological Seminary, working toward a master's in Midrash. This year, Rachel is the rabbinic intern at the Jewish Community Center in Manhattan, where she teaches adult education and works on programming.

In August **Vickie Slater** moved to Houston from London, where she was working for a law firm and living with Katherine McKenney '02. Vickie is a research assistant for her father and is applying to law school in the fall. Vickie also reports that **Tamara Vardy Friedman** had her second baby, Ezra, in December. Her other son, Binyamin, is 2. In November, Vickie attended **Joanna Dinur's** wedding to Andy Kobylivker in Atlanta. **Grace Greig**, Elizabeth Sosnov '02, and Vickie were bridesmaids. Tamar Kamen '99, **Beth Kustina**, Rebecca Samuels '99, **Jaclyn Shumate**, **Katherine Skibinski**, and Elena Sokolow '00 attended.

**Melissa Cypress Dubin-Snyder** has been traveling and studying yoga asana and Jnana yoga in Europe, India, and Thailand. She's teaching privately with her partner, Sandor, in Tiruvanamalai, Tamil Nadu, India. They're also starting a small yoga asana studio, which, Cypress writes, "will operate during

the fall/winter seasons, when pilgrims and western seekers come to the sacred mountain Arunchala and the Ashram of Sage Sri Ramana Maharshi."

**Johanna Lambert** resides in Washington, D.C., with her husband, Sam. Jo runs her own Irish dance school, the Lambert School of Dance, and is thoroughly enjoying her role as homemaker, mother, and home-educator of her three children, ages 4, 2, and 8 months.

**Jamie Rubin**, who relocated to Los Angeles from New York in October, continues to work as a producer for *The Abrams Report* on MSNBC. She spent some time in New York with **Rachel Bloom**, who returned from visiting Israel and England, where she earned an Msc in social policy and planning from the London School of Economics; and with **Mirka Feinstein**, who returned from a trip to India. Jamie writes, "Moving in the winter was a wise choice—I got to experience an 80-degree Christmas Day!"

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**02 Susan Pulley** moved to Alaska and worked for an organic farm and environmental education center, then at a domestic violence shelter. A year later, she moved to Hawaii, then spent a year traveling through Africa and New Zealand. Now she's taking prerequisites for naturopathic medical school in the fall. She appreciates her time at Barnard more and more, and is inspired by her classmates.

**Katherine McKenney** lives in London and works in human resources at Bloomberg. In September she started a part-time two-year master's program in human resources management. Although she's busy

with work and school, she still sneaks in trips to Italy and was excited to visit the Maldives for the first time in March.

**Shoshana Parker** ran into her former roommate **Marcy Guttman** at a dinner at the Manhattan Jewish Community Center on the Upper West Side and enjoyed catching up.

I visited London, where I met up with **Jessica Brescia** and Katherine McKenney. Jessica was admitted to the New York State Bar after graduating from law school in May 2005. She lives in London and works in the financial services department of the U.K. law firm SJ Berwin.

In February, I temporarily moved to Palm Beach, Fla., to be a media consultant to a polo player. I was happy to see **Elizabeth Sosnov** and **Alexis Barad** at my going-away party. Please continue to send your news to my New York address.

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**03** Last fall, **Meaghan E. Daly** started her first year at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

**Lillian Mongeau** lives in south Texas and teaches seventh-grade English through Teach For America.

After living in Bologna, Italy, and Berlin, Germany, **Dina Schorr** returned to complete her master's in strategic studies and international economics at Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, D.C.

**Jennifer C. Park** is getting a master of science in international public policy at University College London. In September, she'll complete her dissertation research on the use of child soldiers in the Great Lakes region of sub-Saharan Africa.

On May 29 **Sara Levine Kornfield** married Zev Noah

Kornfield (C '04). They traveled a bit in Europe, then moved to Philadelphia so she could start working on a Ph.D. in clinical psychology at Drexel University. Zev started medical school at the University of Pennsylvania.

**Adrienne Rose** lives in Washington, D.C., and is a legislative assistant for Congressman Adam Schiff. Adrienne and her former roommate **Chava Brandriss** recently returned from a vacation in Belgium, France, and the Netherlands.

**Hila Ratzabi** is an associate editor at the Sarah Lawrence College literary magazine, *Lumina*.

**Elisabeth Piro** is completing her second year at Hofstra Law. This year she'll be a summer associate at Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge.

**Elliott Zooley Martin** lives in Saint Louis and is the Aronson Fellow

at the Saint Louis Art Museum. She's finishing up her master's in art history at Washington University.

After a year living in Brooklyn and working in arts administration in Manhattan, **Elizabeth Devereux** moved to Greenville, N.C., to pursue a master's of music in violin performance and Suzuki pedagogy at East Carolina University. She visited New York in February to see her violin professor perform at Carnegie Hall and to visit **Mary Choteborsky**.

**Florence Low** serves in the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) as a first-lieutenant in the Education Corps and works with new immigrants. She's the commander of 60 soldiers in a Zionism and Jewish identity course run jointly by the IDF and the Jewish Agency for Israel. When not working with the army, Flo lives in Jerusalem

and practices ballet and Israeli folk dancing. In June, after nearly three years of service, she'll lay down arms and start working toward a master's degree at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Flo's active in the Barnard Book Club of Jerusalem.

**Keren Simon** spent two weeks in Europe with **Stephanie Daddi** (in Italy) and **Aurelia Crouhy** (in Paris). Keren got a job working at Yeshiva University as an administrator.

For the past year, **Ruthie Oland** has been living in Jerusalem on a Dorot Fellowship for future Jewish-American leaders, studying Jewish texts, learning Hebrew, and volunteering at a Jewish-Arab school. She's moving to Boston this summer.

**Pauline (Polly) Alfred**, a seventh-grade history teacher, got married in December 2005.

## IN MEMORIAM

### Madeleine Pelner Cosman '59

Madeleine Pelner Cosman passed away on March 2 in Escondido, Calif., due to complications from scleroderma. She was 68.

A medical lawyer and healthcare policy analyst, Madeleine was active in conservative political circles, published 15 books and hundreds of articles, appeared on radio and television, testified before Congress, and lectured worldwide.

In 1958 she married Bard Cosman, a surgeon and sculptor, and they had two children. Madeleine received a master's from Hunter, a Ph.D. from Columbia University, and a J.D. from Cardozo School. She founded the Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at City College of the City University of New York; the Medieval Festival at the Cloisters; and Medical Equity, a national medical practice brokerage.

Madeleine championed free-market, patient-centered medicine and health savings accounts, was director of the California Rifle and Pistol Association, on the board of Wake Up America Foundation, and on the Council for National Policy.

She is survived by one daughter, one son, and four grandchildren.

1926 Ann Weil Dick, Dec. 7, 2002

1931 Flora Symons, Feb. 20, 2006

1932 Anna Boyd, July 22, 2003

1934 Carolyn Potter Hampton, Jan. 31, 2006

Eleanor Dreyfus Marvin, Jan. 9, 2006

1935 Elizabeth Hayes Hull, July 16, 2005

1936 Edythe Temkin Garbus, Dec. 17, 2005

1937 Louise Kelcec, Dec. 23, 2005

1939 Jane Bell Davison, Jan. 25, 2006

Vivian Paruta, Jan. 27, 2006

Emma Smith Rainwater, Jan. 20, 2006

1941 Estelle Cross, Nov. 13, 2005

Catherine Clark Murphy, Nov. 28, 2005

1946 Charlotte Hyak Lally, May 10, 2005

Marcelle Rousseau, Jan. 14, 2006

1947 Beverly McGraw Hess, Jan. 25, 2006

1948 Eileen Evers Carlson, Dec. 11, 2005

1949 Betty Rubinstein Esner, Sept. 17, 2005

Jeanne Jahn Gansky, Dec. 27, 2005

Ruth Langdon Inglis, Dec. 15, 2005

Sydelle Stone Shapiro, Dec. 15, 2005

1950 Gail Gould, Jan. 19, 2006

Dorothy Durfee Wurtmann, Jan. 1, 2006

1951 Bibi Herskind Fischer, Dec. 1, 2005

1954 Marian Schapierier Sneider, Dec. 7, 2005

1956 Evans Finnegan Momberger, Jan. 1, 2000

1958 Jill Brennan Lee, Feb. 7, 2006

1959 Carol Fuchs Kaufman, Feb. 27, 2006

1962 Anne Francese Sirota, Nov. 23, 2005

1963 Dorothy Shustin Shatzky, Sept. 8, 2004

1966 Teresa Staff, Jan. 8, 2003

1968 Hilary Goldstone, March 3, 2006

1971 Kim Sarner, July 9, 2005

1972 Linda Morse, Jan. 1, 2006

1974 Nancy Lewis, July 15, 2001

1977 Lucy Hsu Chang, Jan. 28, 2006

Janice Kurth, Nov. 27, 2005

1981 Victorine Dent, Dec. 30, 2005

Suzette Loh, Feb. 1, 2006



**Julianna Goldman** moved to Washington, D.C., and works at Bloomberg TV.

**Lisa Kessler** is an associate producer at Nickelodeon. A promotion clip that she produced has been nominated for a national award.

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**04 Carol Lemann** lives in Washington Heights, N.Y., and is completing her second year at NYU School of Law. In August 2004 she married Tuvia Lazar, a software developer, whom she met through a Columbia friend. They had a baby boy, Eliyahu, in July 2005.

**Katherine Diefenbach** has been traveling and lives in Iraq. She's a second lieutenant in the Army. Katie says, "I laughed when I got your e-mail, because I definitely thought, 'Wow, my life has completely changed since graduating.'"

After living in New York and working for the Whitney Museum, **Sarah Isaacs Shelfer** moved back to Maryland. On May 21, 2005, she married Lochlan F. Shelfer in her hometown of Phoenix, Md. **Ashley Compton, Laura Gee,** and **Hadley Heffernan** attended and looked fabulous. Sara is now the development associate for the Bryn Mawr School, an independent all-girl, K-12 school in Baltimore.

**Teresa K. Miller**, of Oakland, Calif., will receive an M.F.A. in creative writing from Mills College next year. Three of her poems appear in Issue 26 of *Shampoo* ([www.shampoopoetry.com](http://www.shampoopoetry.com)).

**Orly Klein** is a first-year at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, along with **Milaurise Cortes**.

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## ALUMNA PROFILE: NUBIA DUVALL '04

### Long Distance Calling



Nubia DuVall: Doing good for others.

Ever since high school, Nubia DuVall dreamed of traveling the world to experience other cultures, learn new languages, and, hopefully, to someday work as a foreign correspondent. Asia, especially, intrigued her, and she decided to start her travels there. Three months after college graduation, DuVall was on a plane to Taipei, Taiwan.

There was no job waiting for her, but finding one didn't take long. A few weeks after arriving in Taipei, DuVall was hired to teach English at a cram school (schools that offer intensive language courses). Then, several months later, in February 2005, she got a job as a discussion facilitator at a new Taiwan social club called Chit

Chat. The club, founded by a businessman who'd operated one of the better known, and most expensive, English language schools in Taiwan, would be a place for native Taiwanese to practice and perfect their English language skills in a more engaging and less stressful environment. The format for all discussion leaders and teachers is the same: Power Point presentations incorporating music and videos and lasting about 75 minutes.

"I have had some of the most amazing, intellectual, funny conversations with the members," DuVall says. Last November, DuVall was promoted to head host: the position meant overseeing all the club's activities, including hiring new teachers, handling payroll, and managing the weekly schedule. "At Barnard I learned how to get along with all types of people and build my confidence," DuVall says. She tapped into this confidence in tackling her responsibilities at Chit Chat. DuVall was even part of the club's publicity and sales efforts, and landed a biweekly radio gig on Taiwan's most popular English-speaking station, answering listeners' questions about American culture.

Helping the members of Chit Chat realize their own dreams was a source of great pride for DuVall. (DuVall recently returned to the United States to pursue other interests.) In so doing, she feels she followed the example of her hero, Rosa Parks. "I was really amazed by what she did," DuVall says. "My mom had a calendar of great black women of the 20th century and one was Rosa Parks, and so she put it up in my room. One time I was staring at it, thinking, 'I want to be like this woman. I want to be fearless and do something that is good for others.'"

—by Debbie Harmsen

1ST REUNION: JUNE 8-JUNE 11, 2006

**05 Elizabeth Curtis** is pursuing a master's in women's studies at George Washington University. **Lillian Seu** works at the department of pharmacology at the Columbia Medical Center, continuing her thesis project from Barnard. This fall, she plans to

get her Ph.D. in pharmaceutical sciences at the University of California at San Francisco. **Elyse Novikoff** loves her first year at Columbia Law School.

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**T**he Alumnae Association of Barnard College was established in 1895 to support the College and to connect more than 29,000 Barnard graduates around the world.

## ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF BARNARD COLLEGE

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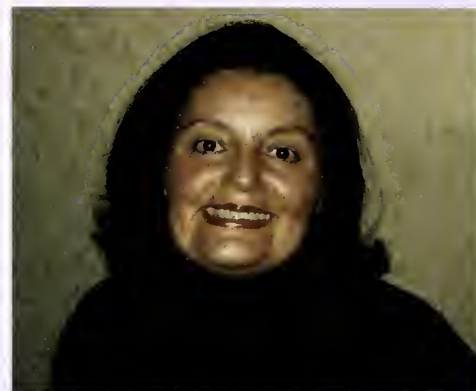
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## Manager of Recent Alumnae and Student Programs and Multicultural Alumnae Programs

EBONY WIRESINGER '04

## MEET DIANA CONAN-WEBER '87 PRESIDENT OF THE SAN FRANCISCO ALUMNAE CLUB

**D**iana Conan-Weber is a nonprofit development and event coordinator. She moved to San Francisco from New York 17 years ago. In early 2005, when the chance to lead the San Francisco Regional Alumnae Club arose, Conan-Weber decided this was a commitment she wanted to make. She recently spoke to *Barnard* about the importance of alumnae clubs, and what she's learned from her experience so far.



**BARNARD:** How did you first get involved with the San Francisco club?

**DIANA CONAN-WEBER:** The first time I heard about the club was about 10 years ago, from an alumna who volunteered with me at another women's organization. She invited me to a reception for newly admitted students. It was great. We all talked one-on-one with the students about our personal experiences at Barnard. Before that, I had not really thought about the College for a while. When I left that reception, I remember being so excited.

**B:** Why did you want to lead an alumnae club?

**DCW:** One of the things that you are taught at Barnard is that you are not only succeeding for yourself, but you are there also to give back to the community, in one way or another. I am tremendously grateful to the College on a lot of levels for the knowledge that I got and all the experiences I had. That is one of the reasons why I am volunteering. Leading the club is a great way to renew my ties to Barnard and to meet local alumnae.

**B:** Do you draw on other experiences in leading the club?

**DCW:** I've been in leadership positions in other organizations, and one of the lessons drawn from those experiences is the ability to be patient, to listen to everyone, and to see

both sides. So in that sense I was prepared to lead. That being said, you don't lead Barnard women—they understand you and off they go. Leading this club is different from my other experiences in that Barnard women know what you're expecting of them, and at the same time they have their own ideas, which is great. Barnard women are very independent, and that's even truer when you're 3,000 miles away from New York.

**B:** What's the role of alumnae clubs?

**DCW:** The main thing is to reenergize our passion for Barnard, especially when we're this far away. It is great to connect with people who are like-minded and have similar experiences. I believe these encounters are more powerful here than in New York City, for example, because there are so many alumnae in New York City. Here, it's "*You're a Barnard alumna!*" You become very excited when you find this connection back to the East Coast, to New York, and to the College.

**B:** What have you learned about Barnard as a result of leading the club?

**DCW:** The number-one thing is that your passion for Barnard does not leave you when you leave the College. It is always with you, one way or another, it does not leave you when you walk out and graduate.

—Alice Eckstein '99



This spring, celebrate Barnard. Make a resolution to connect with the College through our network of alumnae clubs. The active clubs listed below are dedicated to fostering Barnard connections across the United States and around the world. To participate with any of these clubs, contact the leaders listed. If your city or region is not listed, please contact Alumnae Affairs at 212-854-2005 or [alumnaeaffairs@barnard.edu](mailto:alumnaeaffairs@barnard.edu) for ways to participate.

#### ARIZONA

Barnard Club of North-Central Arizona  
Phyllis E. Stern '65  
[phyllisestern@aol.com](mailto:phyllisestern@aol.com)

Barnard-in-Tucson  
Sarah Schulman '68  
[sarahjaneschulman@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahjaneschulman@hotmail.com)

#### CALIFORNIA

Barnard Club of San Francisco  
(Bay Area Barnard Expats, or BABES)  
Diana Conan '87  
[dcw\\_barnard@yahoo.com](mailto:dcw_barnard@yahoo.com)

Barnard Club of Los Angeles  
Marcia Z. Gordon '77  
[gordonm@gtlaw.com](mailto:gordonm@gtlaw.com)

Barnard Club of San Diego  
Barbara Field '79  
[bfield@san.rr.com](mailto:bfield@san.rr.com)

#### COLORADO

The Rocky Mountain Barnard Club  
Sarah Earle Killeen '96  
[sarahearlekilleen@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahearlekilleen@yahoo.com)

#### CONNECTICUT

Barnard Club of Connecticut  
Susan Klapkin '76  
[msklapkin@aol.com](mailto:msklapkin@aol.com)

#### FLORIDA

Barnard Club of South Florida  
Raananah Katz '72  
[mrsmassa@aol.com](mailto:mrsmassa@aol.com)  
Anne Schwartz Toft '53  
[nanyannie@aol.com](mailto:nanyannie@aol.com)

#### ILLINOIS

Barnard Club of Chicago  
Lisa Farrington '85  
[mlbf@aol.com](mailto:mlbf@aol.com)

#### MARYLAND

Barnard Club of Central Maryland  
Hadassah Gordis '55  
[hgordis@comcast.net](mailto:hgordis@comcast.net)

Baltimore Book Club  
Murrie Weiner Burgan '61  
[murrie.burgan@jhuapl.edu](mailto:murrie.burgan@jhuapl.edu)

#### MASSACHUSETTS

Barnard Club of Boston  
Hannah Simon '58  
[HannahSimon@alum.barnard.edu](mailto:HannahSimon@alum.barnard.edu)

#### MINNESOTA

Barnard Club of the Upper Midwest  
Linda Masters Barrows '73  
[alumnaeaffairs@barnard.edu](mailto:alumnaeaffairs@barnard.edu)

#### NEW JERSEY

Barnard Club of Monmouth County  
Renee Becker Swartz '55  
[ReneeBSwartz@aol.com](mailto:ReneeBSwartz@aol.com)

Barnard Club of Greater Northern  
New Jersey  
Sandra Gelfand Schanzer '59  
[Sandra\\_Schanzer@alum.barnard.edu](mailto:Sandra_Schanzer@alum.barnard.edu)

#### NEW YORK

Barnard Business and Professional  
Women (BBPW)  
Diana Grant '98  
[diana@bbpw.org](mailto:diana@bbpw.org)

Barnard Club of Long Island  
Mary Lee Morris '65  
[mlmorris@optonline.net](mailto:mlmorris@optonline.net)  
Sue Stomer Talansky '75  
[suet555@aol.com](mailto:suet555@aol.com)

Barnard Club of Westchester  
Merri Rosenberg '78  
[merri\\_rosenberg@alum.barnard.edu](mailto:merri_rosenberg@alum.barnard.edu)

Barnard College Club of New York  
Marilyn Rosenblatt '52  
[blattCDA@aol.com](mailto:blattCDA@aol.com)

#### PENNSYLVANIA

Barnard Club of Philadelphia  
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[LErnst@ledgewood.com](mailto:LErnst@ledgewood.com)  
Corrine Bolisay '03  
[corrine\\_bolisay@hotmail.com](mailto:corrine_bolisay@hotmail.com)

Barnard Club of Pittsburgh  
Tybe Brett '76  
[Tybeabrett@msn.com](mailto:Tybeabrett@msn.com)

#### TEXAS

Barnard Club of Austin  
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Kristen O'Brien '93  
[gunrie@hotmail.com](mailto:gunrie@hotmail.com)

Barnard Club of Houston  
Caroline Schroder '77  
[BarnardClubHoust@aol.com](mailto:BarnardClubHoust@aol.com)

Barnard Club of North Texas  
Ally Abbasi '97  
[alia123@sbcglobal.net](mailto:alia123@sbcglobal.net)  
Marcy Berman '96  
[marmarlaw@hotmail.com](mailto:marmarlaw@hotmail.com)

#### WASHINGTON, D.C.

Barnard-in-Washington  
Myra Kovey '65  
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#### WASHINGTON STATE

Barnard Club of Seattle  
Dorrie Rosen '58  
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#### BARNARD REGIONAL CLUBS ABROAD

##### CANADA

Barnard Club of Toronto  
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##### ENGLAND

Barnard Club of Great Britain  
Hironi Nishiura Stone '81  
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##### FRANCE

Barnard Club of Paris  
Anna Latella Lascar '69  
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##### ISRAEL

Barnard Club in Israel  
Ariel Hurwich Braun '81  
[braun\\_z@bezequint.net](mailto:braun_z@bezequint.net)

Barnard Club of Tel Aviv  
Tamar Krongrad '85  
[barnardta@egroups.com](mailto:barnardta@egroups.com)

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

The curricular components will be directed at students in their first year, when they enter Barnard's intellectual environment, and again in their senior year, when they take on responsibility for independent thought and research in the senior seminar.

Professors from various levels and disciplines are now applying for the faculty seminar by submitting projections of how their participation will benefit their teaching. The seminar's first cohort will include about a dozen Barnard professors, along with a few Columbia colleagues. In the 2006–07 year, they will examine the often contentious relationship between religious doctrine and modern freedoms, and the interaction of personal beliefs with public life. The focus in the second year will move beyond religion to issues of gender, race, ethnicity, nationality, and language.

Meanwhile, students will see an expansion of Barnard's interdisciplinary foundation programs. For the first-year seminar "Reacting to the Past," "The Founding of Israel 1947–48" will join the series of "games" in which students vocally assume the personae, philosophies, and political stances of historical figures. For first-year English, a course on global literature will be further developed by the English department with input from the departments of religion, economics, history, and political science.

A new senior seminar, "Religion vs. the Academy," is to be created and co-taught by two professors, one an expert on Christianity, the other an expert on Hinduism. This seminar will forthrightly address the challenges of teaching about religion in an academic setting, and will feature visits by religious leaders and outside scholars.

I predict that "Religion, Freedom,

and the Politics of Identity" will add greatly to the transformative effect of a Barnard education. It's truly exciting to anticipate the impact this project will have on campus life—not only at Barnard, but also at the many institutions that will learn from our experience via electronic archives, bibliographies, Web sites, and other new resources. In the years to come, Barnard's faculty, students, and alumnae will make significant contributions to promoting pluralism and academic freedom in the wider world.

## SYLLABUS

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

treat everyone like a unique individual," he says. The flaws in the human cognitive system, including prejudice, amount to "negative consequences of generally helpful things."

The section on prejudice is one important part of a general introduction to the field that Stroessner will give his students over the course of the semester. "I try to give them a sampling of everything out there, so they can pursue the things that interest them further," he says. The research turns up knowledge that is broadly relevant to all aspects of human interaction—from public policy and the law, to the mundane negotiations that comprise our daily lives. Back in class, as Stroessner wrapped up his explanation of superordinate goals, a hand went up. "Is that sort of like why married couples, when they're having conflicts, they'll have a child?" asked the student. "That's a very good example," Stroessner responded, chuckling. "It can help for both parties to have a third goal to direct attention away from their conflict," he said, noting, "on the other hand, if it doesn't work, you've screwed up three lives."



### Suggested Course Readings

## THE WHOLE CARE PACKAGE

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

and reproductive rights are essential in building successful communities in some of the poorest countries. You cannot build a successful economy when you alienate half of your workforce. For the women whom we want to influence and want to reach, as well as women in the organization, seeing a woman in a position of power gives them a sense of what is possible.

**B:** Was it uncommon to be a woman studying science when you got to Barnard in 1974?

**HG:** It was not at all rare at Barnard. The school pushed academic excellence broadly. It had—and has—such a strong premed program, and a strong focus on math and sciences.

**B:** What about your experience at Barnard do you draw on today?

**HG:** Barnard is a school that fosters independent and critical thinking. It's a school that encourages taking risks and being courageous about one's life and one's career. I think the biggest thing that Barnard gave me is the sense of what is possible. It's also a place where one can meet such a large number of people from all parts of the world.

**B:** Was it important for you to attend a single-sex university?

**HG:** It was not a conscious choice. I wanted to be in New York City and, at that time, because of the way Columbia and Barnard were, I was not able to attend Columbia. I felt the Columbia University system had the best educational opportunities to offer, so I attended Barnard. In retrospect, I strongly believe that the fact that it was a



same-sex school made a huge difference. Looking back, I'm really happy that at the time, that was the option available. I think the focus on developing strong women leaders and women role models was incredibly empowering.

**B:** What do you see for the next generation of students who want to enter the field of public health?

**HG:** Young people in general, whether in my field or any other, need to follow their passions: That which gets a person up in the morning, makes you committed, and keeps you interested. Passion should inspire you to take some risks, to take on jobs that might be challenging because they break the mold and may not look like the typical pathway. Be as prepared as possible. Learn to be a continuous learner. We all have to grow and adapt and change.

**B:** Do you think it is increasingly up to the church, charitable organizations, and foundations, rather than government, to solve public health crises and strengthen communities?

**HG:** There is no one institution that is going to do it alone. Government and the public sector should be the safety net. It's the role of government to make sure there are certain fundamentals. Where resources are not available, private organizations can help supplement those resources. It ought to be in a way that will strengthen the existing infrastructure. In no way should private organizations take over the role of the government.

**B:** Is there a model for how governments and private organizations should work together?

**HG:** It depends on the country, the government, and the issues. It's a matter of sitting down and coming up with an

understanding of some of the best things being done in the private sector, and some of the best things being done by governments. The private sector sometimes can do simple things, like procuring commodities, in a simpler way than large government bureaucracies can. If you think about how you procure commodities—anything from food to vaccines—sometimes having a private partner working alongside a government that has the actual delivery systems may be a good combination.

In another example, a lot of private hospitals in developing countries, missionary hospitals, have been the backbone of providing health care. If those kinds of hospitals can work hand in glove with governments, you can have a much more effective system that can be seen as a unified. So you have the same standards, the same systems of care, but you utilize different kinds of providers. It really depends on what the situation is.

**B:** With your background in pediatrics and epidemiology, do you fear potential epidemics or pandemics, such as the bird flu? In terms of priorities, where do various diseases fall?

**HG:** I think we have to be continually vigilant about new infectious diseases and aware of the possible future health crises. That's always a priority. At the same time, we have diseases that already exist that we have to pay attention to. We've not done enough to turn back the tide of HIV, to eliminate tuberculosis and malaria. There are categories of diseases that we sit back and allow to happen.

**B:** You've also focused on women's reproductive health. How is this issue affected by political events, such as the confirmation of Samuel Alito as a justice on the Supreme Court?

**HG:** Politics play into everything, that's unavoidable. It's important to be realistic about where things fit into a certain spectrum. There is usually 85 percent concurrence on issues that most affect people's lives. There is a lot more agreement than disagreement on things that affect human health.

**B:** So is part of being a humanitarian being a great mediator?

**HG:** There are many issues in the work I've been involved in previously, such as HIV and reproductive health, that are sometimes intertwined with people's beliefs and ideologies, which can put people on seemingly opposite sides of the spectrum. So, in HIV prevention, for instance, there is a lot of debate about whether abstinence or condoms are the right approach. I think most people would say you need both. I think most people will agree that a woman's ability to limit the number of children she has, especially in the poorest countries, would both help her health as well as the health of her children. When children are born close together, it's bad for the mother and it's bad for the children's overall health outcome. There are obviously very sensitive issues around family planning, ranging everywhere from whether sex should be used for anything more than procreation to the issues around abortion—those sorts of issues that often are intertwined with a sense of values, and moral and religious beliefs. On the other hand, even with those sensitive matters, there often is agreement about what ultimately is best for women and for children. If you can figure out those points of agreement, you can go further in terms of doing what is in everyone's best interest. ☒

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*Melissa Phipps is a freelance writer specializing in personal finance and charitable giving. She lives in Jersey City, N.J.*

## WHERE THEY STAND CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

abortion developed in high school, when in hearing, reading, and talking about reproductive rights in history and politics classes, she decided the decision should not be made by the government. "I'm a strict follower of my religion, but not everyone is Muslim."

○○○

Diana Price raises her hand to ask a question at the Students For Choice meeting. The facilitators have just reviewed some discussion tactics and teased out some examples. "By avoiding answering a question directly, doesn't that reinforce the perception of the other side?" Price asks. She shares with the group a question she once faced from a roommate: Isn't abortion about killing babies? "The point of this is to find connections and to build on them," says Planned Parenthood's Keenan. "Don't assume that just because someone's against one piece of your position, they're against all of it." How you'll handle a question depends to a great extent on who is asking, she notes: Is it a friend or family member who really wants to understand your view, or a protestor standing outside a women's health clinic?

Two students at the table start to talk about trust, and how integral trust is, in their view, to the issue. "It's not only about being able to make your own decisions, but to trust that a woman knows how to make a decision that's best for her," one of the women says.

Price and some others nod in agreement. Price came to Barnard from a small town outside of Portland, Me. "I wasn't aware of the abortion debate before I came here," she says. "I was in this bubble of ignorance about so many things, which is why I wanted to come to New York. I knew about women's rights, and I identified as a feminist, but it wasn't until my second year here that I really started to

explore what that means, to inform myself and to understand certain issues." Early in her third year, Price and a friend entered into a discussion about reproductive rights. "I was talking about it, assuming that she felt exactly the same way I did. Being at Barnard, if I walk into a room, I'm going to assume that most of the students in that room are pro-choice." Price's friend identified herself as pro-choice, yet she supported some of the restrictions to abortion, such as parental consent. The two disagreed and weren't able to find common ground in that discussion. Price has re-visited the issue from time to time (the two still live together).

The workshop exercises would have been useful at that time, she says. But even without the workshop, "I would have handled it differently. I was just getting into the issue back then, and coming to my own position, and I was feeling very volatile and was too emotional." Since then, Price says, she's achieved more maturity with the issue. "Educating myself, learning as much as I can on all sides of this, makes me more secure, and mature, in a discussion today."

The questions Dorian Deschesne is practicing debating at the meeting are ones she's heard before. How can you support a group that provides abortions? If you teach kids about sex, aren't they just going to go out and have sex? She pauses with each one, thinks it through, then frames her response. Tonight's lessons have been quickly absorbed by all—reframing an idea, explaining the thought process that goes into your position, avoiding the charged areas of the topic, and instead bringing the discussion to a more even playing field. "With the workshops, what we're doing is helping people think about what they want to say. We're challenging them to think about what they really feel, because if you're not using these tactics to say your own beliefs, they're not going to be very useful, and the discussion's not going to go far," says Planned Parenthood's Shulman.

That Deschesne finds herself at this meeting might have come as a surprise five years go. At that time, she believed abortion was wrong, and she accepted, without question, the teaching of her church, a conservative Nazarene congregation in Dutchess County, N.Y., on the subject. Until junior high school, Deschesne's social life and friendships all developed from the church's youth group.

Then a friend came to her one day during her senior year of high school; the friend, 17, was pregnant, and unsure what to do. She grappled over whether to continue with or terminate a pregnancy, and ultimately decided to have an abortion. Once there was a face, a person she knew, attached to abortion, Deschesne's view changed. She saw that there are other circumstances in which people have to make this decision. "Maybe it's not as easy as it's been portrayed, in this way that the church told me, it's not this flip, 'Uh, hey, I'll have an abortion,'" she says of her reaction then. Deschesne was at a turning point, and started moving toward a pro-choice position, one that became more firmly established once she came to Barnard in the fall of 2004, as a transfer student from Poughkeepsie's Dutchess Community College. She'd already left the church, and had started to question its teachings on other issues.

"I didn't come to Barnard with a formed opinion, or with an educated one," Deschesne says. "The way you learn here, you're questioning theories and ways of looking at things, and that opened my mind even more. What do I think about this, *based on the evidence?*" ☒

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*Jennifer Morrill '97 is a freelance writer in Jersey City, N.J.*

 **Word Wars: What's Behind The Rhetoric? and Today's Activism: How Barnard Students Support Their Views**



## SHOW THEM THE MONEY

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

over \$56,000. Barnard's experience illustrates the calculus of financial aid. It finely balances the price for families who can afford it, while still creating ways for families of lesser means to finance higher education. By this equation, many families are eligible for some form of aid.


"Since the big Princeton move in 1998, colleges have increased aid enormously to lower-income and middle-income students," says Rupert Wilkinson, a former professor at the University of Sussex and the author of *Aiding Students, Buying Students: Financial Aid in America* (October 2005, Vanderbilt University Press). Princeton eliminated loans from its financial aid package for low-income students and replaced them with outright grants in 1998. In 2001 Princeton expanded its no-loan program to include anyone eligible for financial aid, so there is now no cut-off since financial aid doesn't apply only to "low-income." The university later removed the value of a family home from its assessment of the family's contribution. Amherst, led by its new president, Anthony Marx, is striving to boost the number of low and middle-income students on its campus by 15 to 25 per entering class. And M.I.T. recently announced it would match federal Pell Grant awards, which top out at \$4,050.

"Highly selective colleges give very generous packages," says Sandy Baum, senior policy analyst with the College Board and a professor of economics at Skidmore College. They can afford this generosity, she says, largely because they don't enroll as many low-income students as less-selective schools. Despite these efforts, a recent analysis by *The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education* shows that from 1983 to 2003, enrollment of low-income students dropped at many of the elite private colleges over the years.

Barnard's aid is "packaged to full need," which in financial aid parlance means that it addresses the entire cost of attending. Rabil and her staff chip away at the roughly \$44,000 tab through different sources: family contribution, a student's savings, work-study jobs, and loans. The remainder is grant aid (which could be a combination of Barnard, federal, and state monies). In the 2005-06 school year, Barnard's share averaged \$21,006 per student. "We try to keep the number of hours worked to maybe 20 hours a month," Rabil explains. "We also try to keep the debt at a reasonable level, so most of our students graduate with just \$18,000 to \$19,000 worth of debt." If they are not burdened by excessive loans, students have more options about taking less-lucrative jobs after they graduate, Rabil says.

Meanwhile, the school has resisted merit scholarships, financial aid that is based on academic or athletic achievement and may not necessarily go to the neediest students. Less-selective schools have relied increasingly on merit aid as a way to appeal to the most talented students—students who might have options elsewhere. "If a student has actually qualified for merit, they are going to go to a high-quality college anyway," notes Wilkinson.

Despite these efforts to make aid available, however, Rabil and other financial aid professionals are frustrated by the persistent view that education at a highly selective college is out of reach. "Lower-income families price themselves out before we even see them," she says. "That in and of itself reduces our pool of students from less-affluent backgrounds." Colleges lose much potential talent that way, and the educational experience of the entire campus suffers, says Broh. ☒

 **Barnard's loan forgiveness program and changes to commuter-in-residence Financial Aid.**

## PAID IN FULL

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

was his name alone printed on the slips. Strange as it may seem, I looked forward to someday having my own coupon book.

After graduation, my monthly payment was set at \$164. My postcollege budget was slim, and having to set aside this money meant fewer long-distance calls, fewer take-out dinners, and other adjustments. Still, writing the check never bothered me. It never elicited the resentment that my cable bill did, for example.

Perhaps an economics major can better explain financing, student loans, and the value of debt, and a political science major might speak to the impact of government policy on higher-education financing. As an English major with a second undergraduate degree from the Jewish Theological Seminary, my view of this all leans more towards the poetic. To me, paying off my student loans was as big a milestone as college graduation itself. I view it, in some ways, as the final step in the path I followed from high school to the Barnard admissions office, from registering for my first college classes to ascending the platform in my graduation robe to accept my diploma one sunny day in May 1991.

To those who soon will start down this repayment road, or to those on it, I hope you will see this financial obligation as an opportunity both to join the ranks of wonderful Barnard students and to take an active role in investing in your future. Great satisfaction and pride comes from such an achievement. And even though I have had no trouble finding ways to spend that extra \$164 every month, I haven't let go of my attachment to Barnard. ☒

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*Suzanne Kling '91 is the communications officer at the Partnership for Excellence in Jewish Education in Boston. It took Kling 13 years to pay off about \$10,000 in undergraduate student loans.*

# A Life Less Ordinary

**T**he words CVRATORES VNIVERSITATIS COLVMBIAE hang in my office in a \$10 oak frame. They are a reminder of more than the accomplishment of earning a college degree. Every time I look at the diploma, I also think back on how I put myself through Barnard as a married student in her early 20s who commuted 100 miles to and from campus and worked three jobs to pay for school.

Until recently, I felt embarrassed to maintain contact with the Barnard community. I haven't earned a Ph.D., published a book, or occupied positions with prestigious titles. I don't even have my master's—not yet.

I did try to go to medical school after Barnard although I can't say the rejections were any surprise. My cumulative grade point average and my scores on the MCAT weren't what they needed to be. At the time, I worked in computer operations in a hospital, and I decided to take a programming course. Information technology seemed like a growing and lucrative field. I knew that in time, the hospital was going to be hiring programmers. When my supervisor hired a friend instead of me for the only available entry level programming job I knew it was time to move on. Armed with a major in biology, a minor in physics, and a background in computers, I was hired by the owner of a wholesale nursery who wanted to computerize his business.

After four years, my daughter was born, and I chose to stay home. She had been born with dislocated hips and was put in a harness. She cried a lot. I read every book on child development and attended to every nuance of this fascinating little human being's growth. There was such joy. And there were bills. At the age of 30, I took on two paper routes: at 4:30 a.m. every morning, I delivered *The New York Times* and the local paper with my car. I also cleaned houses, daughter in tow, played piano at local nursing homes, and did some word processing. These were shared struggles. My husband is a wonderful, caring, man. We survived.

Still, I live in a culture that is particularly toxic to femaleness. I couldn't cosign loans in the first years after my daughter was born because the banks didn't consider the jobs I held as real work. It's good that Barnard nurtured and valued my strength; that's what I drew on then, and what I continue to draw on now in facing an almost daily onslaught of barbs, digs, aggressive behavior, and stultifying expectations that are woven into the fabric of the rural life I'm part of in New Hampshire.

A few months ago, my physics certification came in the mail. That, along with another certification in general science, confirms my status as a "highly qualified" educator. More importantly, I love my job. I am reigniting students' love of learning, and that motivates and energizes

## IN FACING AN ALMOST DAILY ONSLAUGHT OF STULTIFYING EXPECTATIONS OF WOMEN IN MY RURAL LIFE, I CONTINUE TO DRAW ON THE STRENGTH I DEVELOPED AT BARNARD.

me. I've chosen to pursue a graduate degree, going for a master of arts in cognitive sciences at Dartmouth. I'm the oldest one in the class, and I ask really good questions.

My daughter attends Barnard. I feel good about the community she's in, a place that celebrates the authentic selves of the women enrolled there. I'm grateful that Barnard did that for me, and I hope she'll feel the same.

When I was young, I used to say, "I can't wait to get older." Now I am—I'm 48. I'm surer of myself, and I feel very good about the choices I've made and the things that I've done. Certainly there were absolutely miserable times, but we all have those in life. The difference for me is the time I spent on Barnard's campus; it safeguarded my inner sanctuary. I graduated, spirit intact. This self has never stopped gaining momentum.

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*Susan Romano '83 is a high school physics teacher in Swansey, N.H.*

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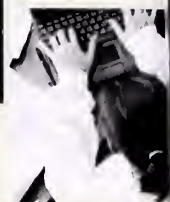
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